

Their sudden and unexpected movements, the long spurs which frequently extend from them, the disturbance of the sea for a considerable distance around, and the impossibility of even guessing what icebergs will do or when they will do it, keeps the seaman at a safe distance when darkness or fog does not prevent the possibility of his seeing their proximity. Many terrible stories could be told of destruction by icebergs, and more of the mysterious disappearances of ships in these waters can be certainly attributed to this cause than to all others.

As some of the icebergs are broken off from what are known as "moraines," *i.e.* from parts of the glacier which are covered with the debris from the land which their enormous weight and resistless forward movement has torn into fragments, they often bring with them interesting geological evidence of their source, and stranded icebergs carrying enormous blocks of stone have melted on the shore, or even at places which are now some distance inland, and have left these in the form of "erratic boulders," which at times have puzzled the amateur geologist, and which are always of interest as indications of the geological nature of the unvisited Continent from which they have been borne. On account of the gradual melting of the ice the blocks are often left in the most extraordinary positions, and in a few cases are so poised that a slight pressure will move the block as though resting on an accurately adjusted pivot. Such cases have resulted in the production of the "rocking stones" with which the tourist in other parts of the world is acquainted. Newfoundland, in its earlier days, appears itself to have been covered by a glacier, the erosive action of which may be seen in many parts where the deep striations of the rocks can be explained by no other hypothesis.

Although the icebergs themselves are practically unapproachable, the harbours and bays are at times well supplied with "baby" icebergs, if one may so describe the berg during the last few days of its existence, and these final relics of the disappearing monsters may be seen and handled, and their freedom from salt proved by the tourist who cares to hunt them in an ordinary rowing boat. The hunt, however, except for the beauty of the scenery, and the exhilarating effect of the air and the general surroundings, can scarcely be recommended as a pastime, and will not be referred to in the section dealing with "Sport," etc.

The floe ice, *i.e.* the blocks of frozen sea-water which, during the Winter and Spring, flows regularly by the coast and far out to sea, although not so pleasing to the eye, is of inestimable value to the Newfoundlander, for it is on these blocks that the seals bring forth their young, and it is from them that the sealers reap the harvest which Nature has so lavishly sown. For information on this point, however, the reader is referred to the section on "The Fisheries" (pages 10 to 15).

Throughout the year, but particularly in Mid-Winter, the visitor will be charmed by the occasional appearance of the "Aurora, Borealis" or "Northern Lights" which can nowhere be seen to greater advantage. It is impossible for pen or words to describe the beauty of this wonderful phenomenon which, though apparently of magnetic origin, is still to a great extent a mystery to the scientist and the camera completely fails to record its vagaries. Varying in colour from a pale sea-green to a vivid red, and in form from undulations like those of a curtain swayed and folded by the wind, to streaks of light shooting radially from a central point coincident

