

of blue ice alternating with furrows of powdery whitish ice, where sand and dust incessantly make their deposits, and communicate the sombre tint easily recognizable at a distance. Professor Forbes calls them *dirt-bands*. They are detected with special facility in a time of thaw, and the veins of azure ice are then remarkable for their transparency.

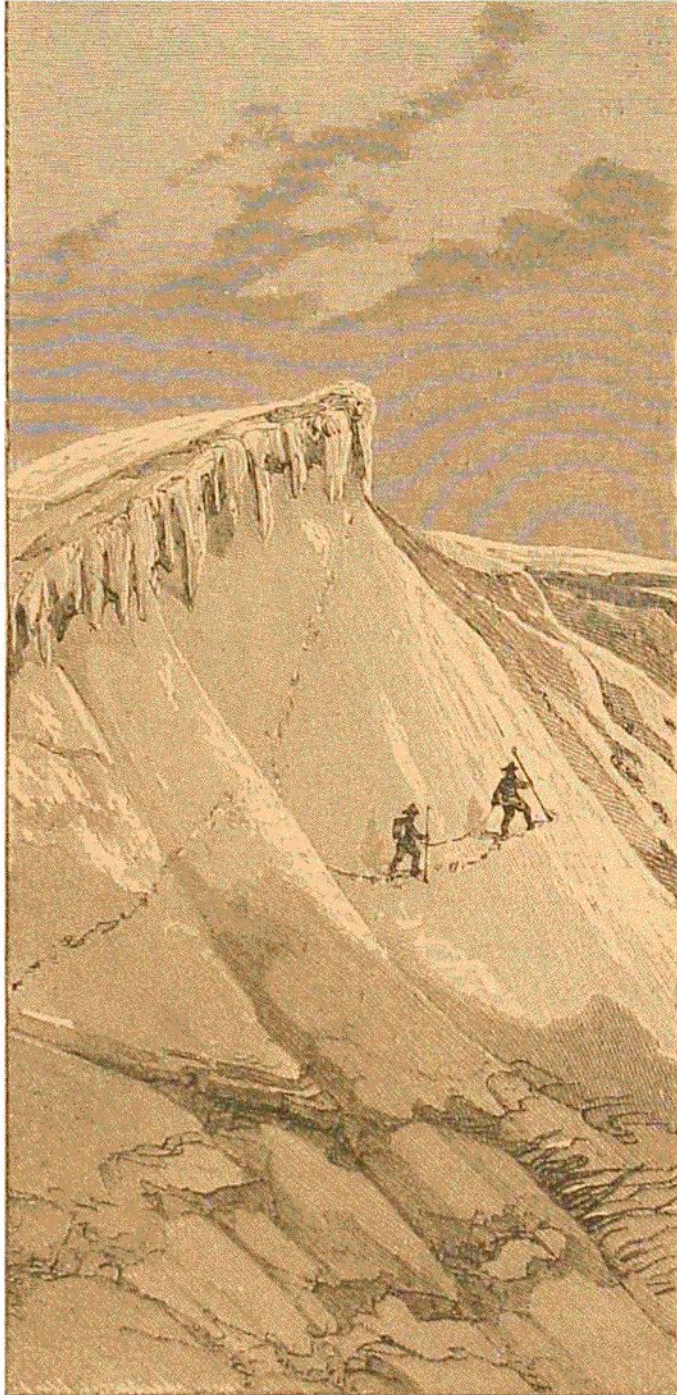


FIG. 101.—THE GLACIER OF THE SCHWARZ-THOR.

At various points of its surface a glacier is always intersected by a great number of crevasses, differing immensely in width. Generally perpendicular to the direction of the strata, they originate in the unequal movement of translation of the glacier, and in the tension thereby produced at certain points of its bulk. Consequently, they are most numerous wherever the general inclination abruptly changes, or where an angle or an escarpment occurs. They are formed suddenly, and sometimes with a noise like the report of artillery; the ice shivers, and then splits across to a considerable extent, sometimes slowly, and sometimes with a simultaneous shock. During the summer the crevasses are en-

larged by the gradual melting away of their sides, until they become great yawning abysses, which surround with new perils the path of the adventurous explorer.

After a fall of snow, they are not infrequently spanned by a