

slides take place in the summer, after powerful rains; as that in the White Mountains in 1826, by which a family were destroyed. Marks of ancient slides are visible on the sides of the Hopper on Saddle Mountain in Massachusetts, and upon the west side of Mansfield Mountain, in Vermont. Arctic voyagers say that similar phenomena are common in the Polar regions.

When a glacier discharges itself into the ocean, great masses of ice, perhaps loaded with detritus, quietly separate from it, and are floated off by currents. Or if the glacier is crowded off a steep shore, the masses will be precipitated into the water. Two systems of fissures, dividing the ice into square blocks, facilitate the separation. These blocks are *icebergs*.

The representation of the Humboldt Glacier (*Frontispiece*), shows the origin of many of the icebergs in the Northern Atlantic. These bergs separate from this glacier in lines parallel to the shore. A representation of a single berg, with the ship of Captain Parry in front of it, is given in Fig. 80.

Fig. 80.

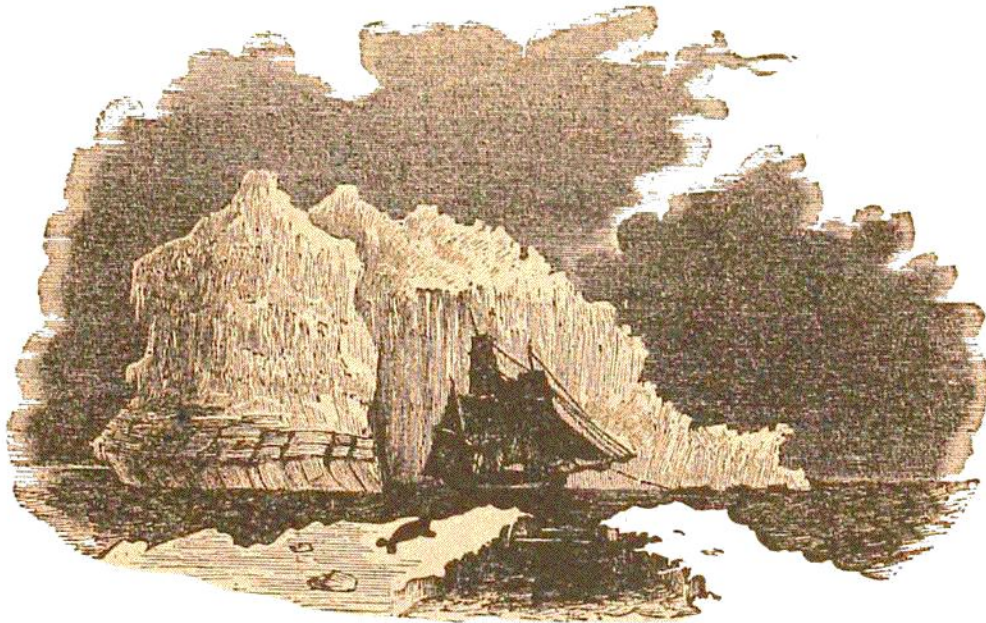


Fig. 81 exhibits a remarkable berg, figured by Captain McClintock, standing on a narrow pedestal, which, however, seems to be connected with a broad mass of ice mostly beneath the surface of the sea. It must be large compared with the berg to prevent the latter from toppling over.

These bergs from the north frequently float as far south as 40° north latitude before they are all melted, and they have been the occasion of many shipwrecks between the United States and Europe.

When the ice in high latitudes breaks up in the summer, vast surfaces of it, called *Field Ice*, are borne hither and thither by the winds and currents, often