

in every respect the upper portion of the Swiss glaciers; they are fields of snow, modified by the alternations of frost and thaw; they transform themselves into ice, but into *névé*, and not *glacier-ice*. This incomplete development is caused by the uniformity of the cold in these parts, for the formation of a glacier is not possible without marked alternations of temperature.

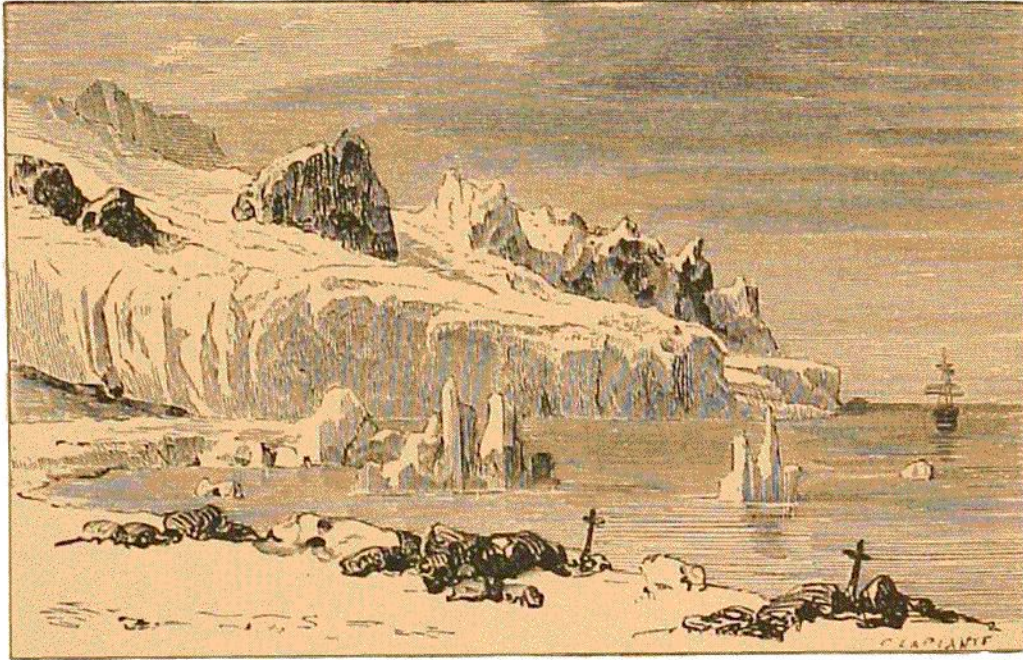


FIG. 110.—GLACIER OF BELL SOUND (SPITZBERGEN).

Like the Alpine glaciers, the Polar glaciers are endowed with a progressive motion; discharging slowly the burdens of snow and rock piled upon them by the protracted winters. But to these we shall hereafter have occasion to return, when speaking, in the later pages of our work, of the Arctic and Antarctic Seas.