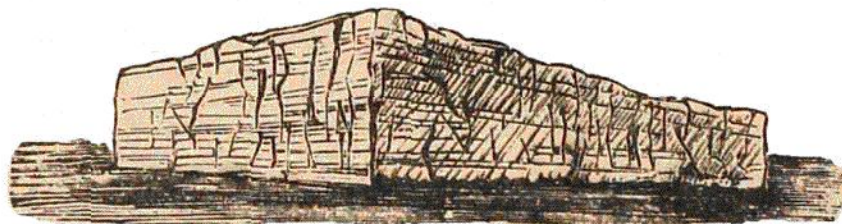


angle from the original line of flotation once or twice ; some were excessively worn and weathered, having apparently been long in warmer regions, and were pinnacled and broken up by deep gullies or channels bounded often by rounded ridges projecting at their mouths on either side.

One much weathered pinnacled berg was passed which had its entire surface shining and polished as if it had recently toppled, and no fresh snow had fallen since this had occurred. We saw several with the parts which had been below water partially exposed by tilting. The surfaces of these were always polished and smooth. We saw none tilt or turn over during our voyage. One we saw was divided into three separate columnar masses as far as the part above water was concerned. No connection of the columns was visible.

The platforms under water at the bases of the bergs often run out into spurs and irregular projections, and these may be dangerous to ships going too near. Soundings were taken on



RECTANGULAR BERG.

Viewed at one of its corners.

one of these platforms, and gave seven fathoms at some distance from the berg and three and a half nearer in.

Nearly all the flat-topped bergs showed numerous crevasses in their cliffs near their summits, and these were always widest towards the summits, and were irregularly perpendicular in general direction.

The flat tops had usually rather uneven surfaces, being covered with small hillocks, apparently formed by drifting of snow, or showing irregularities where they covered over the mouths of crevasses. The surfaces, in fact, looked just like those of the "firn" or "névé," the cracked snow-fields at the heads of European glaciers, and appeared as if they would be equally dangerous to traverse, except with a party roped together. The second stories were always covered with snow, which had fallen on them after their emergence.

The stratified structure is best seen in the case of flat-topped rectangular bergs, where an opportunity is afforded of examining at a corner two vertical cliff faces meeting one another at a right angle ; we had several such opportunities. The entire mass shows a well-marked stratification, being com-