

berg, and circling round through Russia by Kieff and Nijni Novgorod northward by the head of the Dvina to the Arctic Ocean. The total area of Europe thus buried under ice has been computed to have been not less than 770,000 square miles.

Owing mainly to the direction of the prevalent moisture-bearing winds, the snowfall was greatest toward the west and northwest, and in that direction the ice-sheet attained its greatest thickness. Over Scandinavia, which was probably entirely buried beneath the icy covering, it was perhaps between 6000 and 7000 feet thick. Thence the sheet spread southward, gradually diminishing in thickness. But from the striæ left by it on the Harz, it is computed to have been at least 1470 feet thick where it abutted on that ridge. The Scandinavian ice joined that which spread over Britain, where the dimensions of the sheet were likewise great. Many mountains in the Scottish Highlands show marks of the ice-sheet at heights of 3000 feet and more. If to this depth we add that of the deep lakes and fjords which were filled with ice, we see that the sheet could not have been less than 5000 feet thick in the northern parts of Britain.

This vast icy covering, like the Arctic and Antarctic ice-sheets of the present day, was in continual motion, slowly draining downward to lower levels. Toward the west, its edge reached the sea, as in Greenland now, and must have advanced some distance along the sea-floor until it broke off into bergs that floated away northward. Toward the south and east it ended off upon land, and no doubt discharged copious streams of glacier-water over the ground in its front. In North America the southern edge of the ice-sheet is sometimes marked by a "terminal