On the Influence of Ice-Melting on Oceanic Circulation

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Since then he has served on various commissions (notably in Egypt during the war), and accepted an appointment as Administrateur Délégué du Compte de l'Association Internationale, "to carry out special measures for the organization of the new Congo State." This journey up the Congo resulted in a severe illness, and he returned to London on December 31, 1883.

Sir F. Goldsmid was the author of 'Telegraph and Travel,' the biography of Sir James Outram, and many pamphlets, addresses, and reviews, published from time to time, separately, or in the Press and serials. He has besides edited and prefaced a work on 'Eastern Persia,' under the authority of the India Office. His knowledge of the Eastern languages placed him among the foremost of Oriental critics. He was a Vice-President of the Royal Geographical and Asiatic Societies, and in 1886 he was President of the Geographical section of the British Association at the Birmingham meeting.

Sir F. Goldsmid, in 1849, married the daughter of Lieutenant-General George Mackenzie Stuart, and had two sons and four daughters.

T. H. HOLDICH.

CORRESPONDENCE.

On the Influence of Ice-melting on Oceanic Circulation.

WITH reference to the remark of Dr. Otto Pettersson on the temperatures obtained by Sir John Ross in Baffin's bay in 1818 (see *Geog. Journal* for December, 1907, p. 174), I should like to draw Dr. Pettersson's attention to the fact that Sir J. Ross had in his vessel a pair of clamms, constructed under his own supervision, which brought up from the bottom, each time they were used, about 5 or 6 lbs. of mud, and that the temperature of the mud was taken on each occasion and found to agree with the temperature obtained by the self-registering thermometers. I think Ross's results, therefore, can hardly be attributed to imperfect instruments.

The instrument makers one hundred years ago were perfectly capable of constructing ordinary thermometers to give accurate results, and they appear to have supplied Ross with thermometers specially constructed to resist pressure, otherwise the results obtained would not have shown a steady decrease of temperature as the depth increased. Moreover, Sir Edward Sabine, who accompanied Ross in his expedition, informed Sir Wyville Thomson in 1870 that the thermometers were guarded in somewhat the same way as they are at present. The resulting temperatures, having been checked by observation of the temperature of the mud brought up from the bottom, cannot therefore be lightly thrown on one side as due to imperfect instruments.

T. H. TIZARD.

On North Polar Problems.

Washington, D.C., December 30, 1907.

Dr. Nansen's lecture, entitled "On North Polar Problems," published in the November and December numbers of the *Geographical Journal*, while criticizing certain portions of my paper published in the Report of the Eighth International Geographic Congress, has failed to cover what I consider the two most significant items in that paper, viz.—

1. The fact that the flood at Point Barrow comes from the west, and not from the north or east, as Dr. Nansen's hypothesis necessitates.
2. The fact that the range of the tropic diurnal wave (especially on the Bering