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One of the things which first struck the writer when he first spent a few days in the near neighborhood of a glacier was to find what a noisy creature it was. Somehow one associates with snow and ice the idea of intense quiet, and no doubt if one climbs high up among the snow on the mountains one will find it quite enough. But lower down, on the surface of the glacier, there is, at least in summer time, continuous noise. The noise is the voice of the glacier, the voice of the ice. It is a noise which the writers of textbooks doubtless know perfectly well, but never thought of mentioning, things which perhaps were so familiar to them, that to describe them would have seemed like saying that rain is wet or that snow is cold, but which nevertheless fill the novice with the pleasure of having discovered the unexpected.

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