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Dr. Sheldon Jackson, Noted Man Dead.

Dr. Sheldon Jackson was one of the most prominent figures connected with the early history of Alaska. When he died at Asheville, N. C., the other day he was within sixteen days of his seventy-fifth birthday. He was born at Minerva, N. Y. For thirty-two years he was actively associated directly or indirectly with the educational, religious, economic and political history of Alaska. Dr. Jackson was the father of the educational system of that territory and was directly responsible for the introduction of reindeer for the use of the natives.

Dr. Jackson may be set down in history as having been one of the first and most optimistic of men regarding the agricultural possibilities of Alaska, having been sent as a special commissioner in 1879 to the Yukon river to report on this feature of Alaska. He was also that year directed by the government to make a report on the condition of the natives of Southeastern Alaska. From that time on although he was working in other fields, he kept close touch with Alaska, eventually returning to become first a mission-

ary, then through his influence establishing a canoe mail service, and after strenuous efforts securing in 1884, with the aid of others, a district organization. In the following year came the schools and after that he applied himself to a multiplicity of public duties, engaging in the arduous task of reform in a territory which was in the burning to American ideals.

BRINGS REINDEER FROM LAPLAND

Perhaps the one thing that brought him into the eyes of the public more strongly than his other duties was the importation of reindeer from Lapland into Alaska. His argument that the scarcity of the whale, the constant lessening in number of the game animals and birds, owing to the encroachment of the white man, influenced congress, and today the natives of Seward peninsula, the Kobuk, Koyukuk and other districts have great herds, lessening the burden of the government, encouraging a husbandry and independence among them that could have been brought about by no other means. And where in 1891 there were but the 600 animals imported, there are now over

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