

PEARY TELLS HOW HE REACHED POLE

Discoverer's Own Story of Battle With Ice and Cold of Arctic.

LONG JOURNEY BY SLEDGE

Many Halts Caused by Open Water in Ice—One Man Disabled by Frostbite—Party Whittled Down to Few.

(Continued From First Page.)

September 8, we passed through extremely heavy running ice into a stream of water, rounded Cape Rawson and passed Cape Sheridan. Within a quarter of an hour of the same time we arrived three years before. T. A. M. September 8, we reached the open water extending beyond Cape Sheridan. We steamed up to the end of it, and it appeared practicable at first to reach Porter Bay, near Cape Joseph Henry, which I had for my winter headquarters, but the outlook being unfavorable, I went back and put the Roosevelt into the only opening in the ice, being close to the mouth of the Sheridan River, a little north of our position three years previous.

Leave Ship for Land.

The season was farther advanced than in 1906. There was more snow on the ground, and the new ice inside the floe-bergs was much thicker. The work of discharging the ship was then commenced at once and rushed to completion. The supplies and equipment were sledged across ice and sea and deposited on shore. A house and workshop were built of boards, covered with sails and fitted with stoves, and the ship was swung for winter in a good water, where she touched bottom at low tide. This settlement on the stormy shores of the Arctic Ocean was christened as Hubbardville.

Hunting parties were sent out on September 10, and a bear was brought in the 11th, and some deer a day or two later.

Moving to Cape Columbia.

On September 15 the full work of transporting supplies to Cape Columbia was inaugurated. Marvin, with Dr. Goodsell, took 16 sleds loaded with supplies to Cape Belknap, and on the 27th the same party started with loads to Porter Bay. The work of hunting and transporting supplies was prosecuted continually by the members of the party and the Eskimos until November 5, when the supplies for the spring sledge trip had been removed from winter quarters and deposited at various places from Cape Colan to Cape Columbia.

In the latter part of September the movement of ice subjected the ship to a pressure which latered her to port some 3 or 4 degrees, and she did not recover till the following spring.

Hunters Secure Much Meat.

On October 1, I went on a hunt with two Eskimos across the ice field and Cape Fair Bay and the peninsula, made the circuit of Clements Markham Inlet and returned to the ship in seven days with 15 musk oxen, a bear and a deer. Later in October I repeated the trip, obtaining five musk oxen and hunting parties secured some 40 deer.

Professor MacMillan went to Cape Columbia in November and obtained a month of tidal observations, returning in December. In the December month Borup moved the Hecla depot to Cape Colan, Bartlett made a hunting trip overland to Lake Hazen and returned to the ship on January 1. In the January month Marvin crossed Robeson Channel and went to Cape Bryant for tidal and meteorological observations. Bartlett crossed the channel and made the circuit of Newman Bay and explored the peninsula. After he returned Goodsell went to Markham Inlet and Borup toward Lake Hazen, in the interior, on hunting trips.

All Move to Cape Columbia.

In the February month, Bartlett went to Cape Hecla. Goodsell moved some more supplies from Hecla to Cape Colan, and Borup went to Markham Inlet on a hunting trip. On February 15, Bartlett left the Roosevelt with his dog team for Cape Columbia and Porter Bay. Goodsell, Borup, MacMillan and Hansen followed on successive days with their provisions. Marvin returned from Bryant on February 17, and left for Cape Columbia February 21. I brought up the rear February 22. The total of all divers leaving the Roosevelt were 11 members of the party, 20 Eskimos, 16 dogs and 21 sledges. By February 25, such of the Cape Colan depot as was needed had been brought up to Cape Columbia, the dogs were rested and double rationed and harnesses and the sledges and other gear overhauled.

Four months of northerly winds during the Fall and Winter, instead of southerly ones as during the previous season, led me to expect less open water than before, but a great deal of rough ice, and I was prepared to hew a road through the jagged ice for the first 100 miles or so, and then cross the big lead.

Pioneer Starts Over Ice.

On the last day of February, Bartlett, with his pioneer divan, accomplished this, and his divan got away due north over the ice on March 1. The remainder of the party got away on Bartlett's trail, and I followed an hour later.

The party now comprised seven members of the expedition, 17 Eskimos, 133 dogs and 19 sledges. One Eskimo and seven dogs had gone to pieces. A strong easterly wind, drifting snow and temperature in the minus marked our departure from the camp at Cape Columbia, which I had christened Crane Cay. Rough ice in the first march damaged several sledges and smashed two beyond going back to Columbia for other sledges in reserve there. We camped ten miles from Crane City. The easterly wind and low temperature continued. In the second march we passed the British record made by Markham in May, 1876—52°—and were stopped by open water, which had been formed by the wind after Bartlett passed. In this march we negotiated the lead and reached Bartlett's third camp. Borup had gone on from here, but missed his way, owing to the faulting of the trail by the movement of the ice. Marvin came back also for more fuel and alcohol.

First Sight of Sun.

The wind continued forming open water, all about the end of the fourth march, we came up on Bartlett, who had been stopped by a wide lake of open water. We remained here from March 4 to March 11. At noon of March 5, the sun, red and shaped like a football by excessive refraction, just raised itself above the horizon for a few minutes and then disappeared again. It was the first time I had seen it since October 1.

I now began to feel a good deal of

PEARY, WIFE AND DAUGHTER, TAKEN WHEN THEY WERE IN NORTH TOGETHER.



Mrs. R. E. Peary.

Marie Peary.



Robert E. Peary.

anxiety because there were no signs of Marvin and Borup, who should have been there for two days. Besides, they had the alcohol and oil, which were indispensable for us. We concluded that they had either lost the trail or were imprisoned on an island by open water, probably the latter. Fortunately, on March 11, the lead was practicable, and leaving a note for Marvin and Borup to push on after us by forced marches, we proceeded northward. The sounding of the lead gave 110 fathoms. During this march we crossed the 84th parallel and traversed a succession of just-frozen leads from a few hundred yards to a mile in width. This march was really simple.

News From Missing Men.

On the 14th we got free of the leads and came on decent going. While we were making it, a courier came from Marvin and informed me he was on the march in the rear. The temperature was 32°. The following morning, March 14, I sent Hansen with his divan north to the pioneer trail for five marches and Dr. Goodsell, according to the programme, started back to Cape Columbia.

At night Marvin and Borup came spinning in with their men and dogs, claiming in the bitter air like a squadron of battleships. Their arrival relieved me of all my anxiety as to my oil supply.

McMillan's Foot Frostbitten.

In the morning I discovered that MacMillan's foot was badly frostbitten. The mishap had occurred two or three days before, but MacMillan had said nothing about it in the hope that it would come out all right. A glance at the injury showed me that the only thing was to send him back to Cape Columbia. The arrival of Marvin and Borup enabled me to spare sufficient men and dogs to go back with him.

This early loss of MacMillan was seriously disappointing to me. He had a sledge on the way from Cape Columbia, and with his enthusiasm and the powers and physique of a trained athlete, he was a valuable asset to the party. The arrival of Marvin and Borup, however, was a relief, as they brought with them a fresh supply of sledges and dogs.

The best sledges and dogs were selected, and the sledge load brought up to the standard. The sounding gave a depth of 325 fathoms. We were over the continental shelf, and as I had surmised, the successive leads crossed in the fifth and sixth marches composed the big lead and marked the continental shelf. On leaving this camp the expedition comprised 16 men, 12 sledges and 100 dogs.

Ice Moves Under Men.

The next march was satisfactory as regards distance and character of going. In the latter part there were pronounced movements in the ice, both visible and audible. Some leads were crossed, in one of which Borup and his team took a bath, and we were finally stopped by an impenetrable lead opening in front of us. We camped in a temperature of 50°. At the end of two short marches we came upon Hansen and his party in camp, mending their sledges. We divided the remainder of the day to overhauling and mending sledges and breaking up our damaged ones for material.

Put on Forced Marches.

The next morning I put Marvin in the lead to pioneer the trail, with instructions to make two forced marches, to bring up our average, which was to be followed by the last two short ones. Marvin carried out his instructions implicitly. A considerable amount of young ice assisted in this. At the end of March 16, latitude 85°25', Borup turned back, in command of the second supporting party, having traveled a distance equivalent to Hansen's distance from the ice to his farthest north. I was sorry to lose this young Yale runner, with his enthusiasm and pluck. He had led his heavy sledge over the floes in a way that convinced me that his father's eyes glistered.

From this point the expedition comprised 20 men, 10 sledges and 70 dogs. It was necessary for Marvin to take a sledge from here, and I put Bartlett and his divan in advance to pioneer the trail. The continual daylight enabled me to make an arrangement here that brought my advance and main parties closer together and reduced the likelihood of their being separated by open leads.

Advance Continues in Relays.

After Bartlett left camp with Hansen and their divan, Marvin and I remained with four divans 20 hours longer and then camped. When we reached Bartlett's camp, he broke out and went on and we turned in. By this arrangement the advance party was traveling while the main party was asleep and vice versa, and I was in touch with my advance every 24 hours. I had no reason to complain of the going for the next two marches, though for a less experienced party, less adaptable sledges or less perfect equipment it would have been an impossibility.

At our position at the end of the second march, Marvin obtained a satisfactory sight for latitude in clear weather, which placed us at 85°48'. This result agreed very satisfactorily with the dead reckoning of Marvin, Bartlett and myself. Up to this time the slight altitude of the sun had made it not worth while to waste time in observations.

Pass Nansen's Farthest North.

On the next two marches the going improved and we covered good distances. In one of these marches a lead delayed us a few hours. We finally ferried across the ice cakes. The next day Bartlett led himself out, evidently for a record, and

was cleared and we rushed across before the ice could open again. A succession of laterally open leads was crossed and after them some heavy old ice; and then we came to a layer of young ice, some of which buckled under our sledges, and this gave us a straight way of six miles to the north. Then came more heavy old floes covered with hard snow. This was a good long march.

The next march was also a long one. It was Bartlett's last hike. He let himself out over a series of large, old floes, steadily increasing in diameter and covered with hard snow. During the last few miles I walked beside him or in advance. He was very solemn and anxious to go further, but the programme was for him to go back from here in command of the fourth supporting party, and there were no supplies for an increase in the main party.

Bitter Wind Aids Progress.

In this march we encountered a high wind for the first time since the three days after we left Cape Columbia. It was dead on our faces, bitter and insistent, but I had no reason to complain, for it was better than an easterly or southerly wind, either of which would have set us adrift in open water, while this was closing up every lead behind. This furnished

(Concluded on Page 4.)

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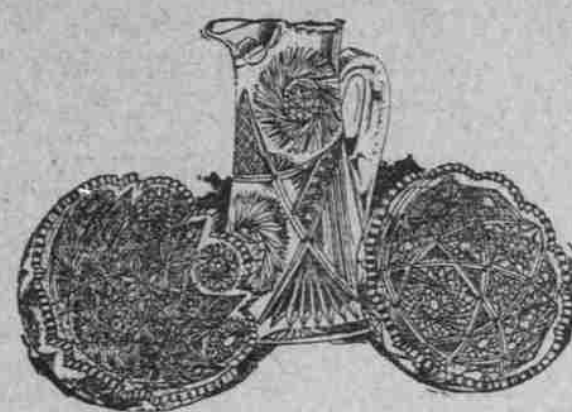
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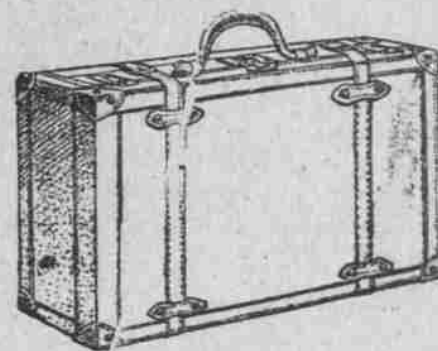
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