

Scientific.

The Arctic Regions.

"A Winter's Adventure at the North Pole" was the title of the lecture delivered by Dr. Isaac I. Hayes, in the Michigan-avenue Baptist Church, Chicago. He looked as if he had seen forty Summers and an Arctic Winter thrown in, is a brunette, of medium height, of vigorous and hardy frame, speaks well, and delivers an entertaining and instructive lecture.

He remarked that there was a mistake in the title of his lecture, as he was not at the North Pole, and had he been and spent a six months' night there, he would have "made a night of it" indeed. He had reached within 420 miles of the Pole, however—nearer than any other human being, unless Captain Hall, who was now hemmed in the ice, spending his second winter there—had already waved the Stars and Stripes right over the Pole. He hoped Hall had succeeded, and would return next year to tell them all about it. The various efforts to find a northwestern passage were explained. McClintock was the first to go through, having entered by Behring's straits and came out by way of Baffin's bay, but without his ship, which had to be abandoned. This was in 1858, when he recovered some relics of Sir John Franklin. The expectation of finding a commercial passage was abandoned after Franklin. Kane was sent out to seek Franklin, but did not find him. The lecturer was with Kane. He went again in 1869, in a schooner of 150 tons. They sailed directly for the Greenland coast. The first sight of Greenland was chilly. The mountains were covered with snow, but beneath the cliffs were patches of verdure which gave the name to the country, and were welcome to the traveler's eye. The inhabitants of Greenland sailed to the American coast and proceeded as far south as Boston between 1001 and 1009. Greenland was a vast reservoir of ice.

The interior of the country was a field of ice 1,200 miles long and 700 wide. From this field great rivers flowed. There were great glaciers. Chunks of ice slid off and started on southern voyages to the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. These were icebergs. He saw one three miles in circumference and 315 feet above water, and as ice was seven times as deep below as above the surface, its total height was 2,520 feet. It weighed 27,000,000,000 of tons, enough to supply the cooling ingredient of sherry cobbles for the entire United States for a century, and if it could be sold in New York it would more than pay the national debt. In spite of the ice Greenland was inhabited. There were colonies, and Christian churches, and in many cases the Greenland Christians performed their duties well. His expedition pushed up Baffin's bay, and got along very nicely until they met the ice flowing southward from the pole. Still they worked northward until a fierce gale drove them back, and crowded them against the land. They lay under the lee of a 200-foot iceberg out of the way of the storm. The wind changed and the pool of water in which they floated was encroached upon by the ice, and the vessel was lifted with the power of 10,000 jackscrews high and dry on the top of an iceberg. At that time the brave sailors were betting with each other as to whether the vessel would go up higher or down entirely. Finally the ice gave way, and they were launched once more in their natural element. Two days after they got to land and the vessel was put into winter quarters. The shades of winter were falling fast. They built a house over the vessel, and with two stoves went to work to keep themselves warm for the winter.

In this happy city they had a morning sun every twenty-four hours though some of them did not know it. In the Arctic Circle there was only one sunrise in the year, but it was a long sunrise. In the same way

the approach of the darkness took three weeks to come on, and for three months after they saw no sunlight at all. The moon circled around them for half the month never setting. They also had the stars explained and the aurora borealis. The latter was an unexplained phenomenon. Anyway, it was of great magnificence. The Arctic night was desolate. They were 1,000 miles away from the nearest out-post of civilization. They had to live in their own little world, but fifteen men did not make much of a world. The night affected their complexion, and when daylight came back they looked like spermaceti candles. They spent the winter reading books, teaching school and printing the *Weekly News* and lecturing; they had a fiddler, but the fiddler fiddled out all his tunes, and they had to threaten to break his fiddle over his head if he did not stop fiddling. They had a famous snorer on board. His snore sounded weird in the silence and loneliness of the Arctic regions. The fiddler played the snore on his fiddle, and the snore was chronicled in the paper. The snorer got mad, and the *News* growing personal, had to be suppressed—the first assault on the liberty of the press within the Arctic Circle. He often took rambles over the ice by himself. It was very lonely. There was no sound, save the rise and fall of the ice as it moved up and down lazily with the current. The beating of his heart broke the stillness of the Arctic night. The stillness was fearful and oppressive.

The sun was welcomed back after 135 days' absence. They gave him three times three cheers and then cheered him all day. The first day was ten minutes long. The days grew by degrees, and when the summer came the sun shone all the time. They set out in April with a boat to go north over the ice in search of an outlet for the vessel. After thirty days, during which they made but sixty miles, they gave it up and started out with two sledges drawn by dogs. They had bought the dogs from a native found upon an island. He was an odd specimen of the human race. His upper garments were fashioned out of fox skins, and his pantaloons out of bear skins, likewise his boots. His skin was covered with forty years' accumulation of grease and dirt. His face was as round and flat as the bottom of a tub. It was a decidedly Chinese cast of countenance, with very little nose. The fellow had three wives, seven children, and twenty dogs. The children were lively and gay, the girls had dolls, and the boys sleds, and were cutting up shins like children the world over. They lived in a hut, how he could not imagine. He tried to wean that man away from having so many wives, but he could not see it. He wanted another, and so did his wives, so that they would not have so much to do. His notion of heaven was an island with grass, eternal sunshine, and pots in which were boiling walrus, seals, reindeer, and other Esquimaux dainties. Each man got a pot himself, and had something wholesome to eat forever and ever. When the missionaries first went to Greenland, they drew vivid pictures of hell, but, it being warm, the natives rather liked it than otherwise.

They experienced some quite cold weather—69° below zero—on their journey north in the sleds. They reached the open sea at latitude 83°. He gave the name of Cape Union to the most northerly point of Grinnell land. The Polar sea was open, and he believed there were constant currents flowing through it. The water around the Pole would not freeze, as the wind constantly kept the waves in motion. Could they have transported their boats to the icy banks of that open sea they would have been able to navigate it. But they had to retreat to the vessel after a sled ride of 1,300 miles, the longest on record, he believed.

The vessel was ten months locked up in the ice, and so badly shattered that they had to return, and glad enough were they to feel the influence of the sun and warm weather. They intended to return the next year and explore the Polar basin, but the war prevented. Captain Hall was now there, and they should all wish him success. Grinnell land was part of the United States, and the North Pole should be under the Stars and Stripes, too.

In 1770 appeared the army worms in New England. So numerous were the invaders that ditches dug around fields two feet wide and as many deep were filled in a single night. The destruction to vegetation was fearful.

Some ship-builders say the failure of iron in ships will cause a revival in trade in wooden ships, and assert that iron vessels are always ready to sink when the head of the iron rivets become corroded.

The Horse Disease—Rules for Treatment adopted by the U. S. Express Company.

The horse distemper has reached Leavenworth, and it is not improbable that cases of it will occur here. We therefore print the following circular from the U. S. Express Company, who employ in their business a large number of horses. It may be valuable for preservation for the recipes therein contained:

OFFICE OF U. S. EXPRESS CO., Buffalo, Oct. 25, 1872.

To Agents of U. S. Express Co.: The horse distemper originating in Canada is now prevalent in this country, and it seems more than likely that it will reach you and attack the Company's horses in your charge, and as the horses in the Buffalo stable have been so far carried through without a loss, I send you the following treatment pursued by our Mr. Gould, and if you have none better, adopt these rules. The disease seems to be a catarrhal fever, first in the head, and if not averted, goes to the lungs, ending in lung fever, which very often proves fatal; it commences with a short hacking cough, and within twenty-four hours the nose discharges, first watery, then thickens, light color at first, then darkens, no smell.

Mr. Gould's course is as follows—When the symptoms are first noticed commence feeding warm mashes, of bran and cut hay, give water after the feed, not before; keep the horse well and warmly blanketed.

Do not use the horse unless compelled to do so, and then he must not be driven faster than a walk; put on a blanket whenever he is standing still. If the horse refuses to eat the mash, then give him oat-meal gruel; give a quart or two at a time—pour it down or give from a bottle. The horse will have a sore throat; examine, and, when seen, apply the following mixture, rubbing thoroughly from the jaws to the chest, twice a day: Take and mix four ounces of tincture of arnica, four ounces of chloroform, four ounces ammonia, and four ounces sweet oil; in addition to the outward remedy, you will buy a piece of quarter-inch rubber tube or pipe—eighteen inches long—put in one end about a tablespoonful of finely pulverized alum, insert the tube in the mouth to and beyond the roots of the tongue, and then blow the powder in the throat. Use this when the throat becomes sore or much irritated. Use this with discretion.

Buy an eight-ounce rubber-ball syringe, and inject up each nostril the following mixture, four times in twenty-four hours, and continue until you are well satisfied that the mixture has gone well up the nostrils. Mixture—one pound of chloride of potash to three gallons of soft water; mix thoroughly. Should the horse be taken with chills, it is a sure evidence of lung fever, and immediate care is required. You will then give thirty drops of the following every hour, until the horse is relieved: One ounce of aconite and three ounces of water; mix and use. He must be kept from rain or cold winds. Keep the stable clean; use a little chloride of lime about the floors. Watch your horses day and night; good care and warm covering will do as much as medicines.

MARYLAND WAY OF CURING HAMS.—Charles Jessop furnishes the Maryland Agricultural Society the following receipt: 2½ lbs. saltpetre, dried and finely powdered, ¼ bushel best Liverpool salt, 3 lbs. brown sugar, and ½ gallon molasses. Mix all in a vessel, rub the meat well with the same, and pack with skin down.

The above is the exact amount for 100 lbs. of pork. After being in salt three or four weeks, take out, wash clean the pieces, dry, and hang it up for smoking. Three weeks is sufficient to smoke them thoroughly—by fire made of hickory wood. When smoked, take down and bag, or pack away in dry chaff or cut straw. Examine them occasionally, and if found to be at all damp renew the packing with dry material.

DISCOVERIES AT TROY.—The latest excavations at Troy have led to the discovery of a burnt house, at the depth of forty-seven feet, which contained the complete skeleton of a Trojan woman with her gold ornaments. The bones of a child were also found in the original soil. Of the highest importance are the terra cottas with prehistoric symbols. No museum in the whole world, except that of Parma which has two, possesses terra cottas of this kind. Now thousands of them have been encountered at once.

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