

Nansen has made this unparalleled journey in consequence of his simple plan of not opposing, but siding with, the Arctic currents and floes. The result is a most magnificent victory of science, and a proof that scientific training, no less than courage, perseverance, and physical endurance, is necessary in an Arctic explorer. This splendid success was owing, as Professor Mohn stated, "to the fact that Nansen is a man of science, who, with his mastery of all that had been done and the penetration of his genius, could gain an insight into the unknown; and that, with unsurpassed practical sense, he knew how to make the arrangements necessary to secure that his journey, from beginning to end, should be a unique success."

Nansen depicts the experiences and sufferings met with in narratives which are notable both for their accuracy and modesty. He treats as ordinary incidents the freezing in of the *Fram*; her years of solitude in the grip of the ice; the fact that he and Johansen, on their ski journey, were without furs for several months in a temperature which sank, at times, to the inconceivable cold of 62° below zero (F.); and that for ten months they lived, like the Eskimo and the Samoyede, on blubber. As for the task of gaining land by clambering from one small ice-floe to another for thirteen continuous days, he merely mentions it; and of the severe winter spent at Franz Josef Land, he remarks that it "passed well, and we were both in perfect health." And when he was absolutely cut off from any hope except the desperate one of getting south, he points out the moral advantage of having "*no line*