

cooked with a little flower it made a very wholesome, nice dish. The Esquimaux, as regularly as possible, saved up the stomachs of the deer to be eaten in a frozen state. They had a sourish taste and were not at all unpleasant, and they were a preventive of scorbutic diseases. The party lived very comfortable. A school was opened, but ink could not be used, as everything was frozen. They also could not wash, as the water froze immediately on coming in contact with the hair or beard. Clothes could not be washed but were cleaned by tramping them in the dry snow. This was done with the blankets every week; and they kept their bodies clean by rubbing them with snow, never using water except for drinking. Attempts to wash linen resulted in its being frozen hard in drying, so that it was broken in pieces by the action of the wind. It took two hours to boil the kettle, and the door had to be left open as the smoke would not go up the chimney. No advantage was derived from the fire in respect to warmth, but, on the contrary, the temperature of the house fell from fifteen to twenty degrees while the fire was on, in consequence of the door having been left open. Hence they were glad to get the kettle off and would eat the food even before it was well cooked. Their Christmas was as jolly a one as they had ever spent. As was the custom of the H. B. Company's officers all over the country, he had kept a little spirits to give a glass to every man at Christmas time. Their Christmas dinner consisted of a glass of hot brandy and water, some venison and a very good plum pudding; and a game of ball served to give an appetite. This was the lecturer's first expedition. All the party were green at the work. They tried to follow the habits of the Esquimaux as far as they could. One thing they did which had never been done by those in charge of Government expeditions, as soon as they saw a snow hut made they set to work to construct one for themselves. The shape was that of a bee-hive and the walls were six inches thick. A great deal of ingenuity was required to build it properly. It was so translucent that one could read and write inside, and it was the best shelter that could be had. His object in making his men learn to do this was that when overtaken by the frequent storms in travelling, they might run up in half an hour or less a shelter that would completely protect them from the cold until the weather changed for the better. In the spring they prepared to make long sledge journeys, the first that were made along the Arctic coast in America. The sledges they made were like toboggans, with runners to protect from the ice; and they were loaded with about two hundred pounds per man. They travelled to the point where Sir John Ross had turned back and completed that line of route. Other time pieces having failed, there was at length but one watch left which the lecturer had given to one of his men. The mainspring of this broke also, and though it was repaired once or twice it still gave way until an old spring which had been notched and converted into a saw for cutting iron, was found and inserted after which it went famously the whole season; although a watchmaker to whom it was afterwards shown would scarcely believe the fact. With nothing but this watch and a compass to guide them, they succeed-