

( $8\frac{3}{4}$  pints), in an hour and a half, with a consumption of about 120 grammes of snowflake petroleum. Next day we boiled  $2\frac{1}{2}$  litres of water (over 4 pints), and melted  $2\frac{1}{2}$  litres, in one hour, with 100 grammes of snowflake petroleum. Yesterday we made about 2 litres of excellent oatmeal porridge, and at the same time got some half-melted ice and a little water in little over half-an-hour, with 50 grammes of snowflake petroleum. Thus there will be no very great consumption of fuel in the day."

Then I made all kinds of calculations and computations in order to find out what would be the most advantageous kind of provisions for our expedition, it being of the greatest moment that the food both for dogs and men should be nutritious, and yet should not weigh more than was absolutely necessary. Later on, in the list of our equipments, I shall give the final result of my deliberations on this matter. Besides all this, we had of course to consider and test the instruments to be taken with us, and to go into many other matters, which, though perhaps trifles in themselves, were yet absolutely necessary. It is on the felicitous combination of all these trifles that ultimate success depends.

We too passed the greater portion of our time in these preparations, which also kept many of the others pretty busy during the winter. Mogstad, for instance, found steady employment in making sledges and fitting them with runners, etc. Sverdrup busied himself in making sleeping-bags and many other things. Juell was appointed dog-tailor, and when he was not busy in the galley, his time was devoted to taking the measurements of the dogs, making harness for them and testing it. Blessing, too, fitted up for us a small, light medicine chest, containing selected drugs, bandages and such other things as might be of use. One man was constantly employed in copying out all our journals and scientific observations, etc., etc., on thin paper, in a contracted form, as I wanted, by way of making doubly sure of their preserva-