

POLAR PARTY.

YEARS SERIOUS SEARCH INSTEAD OF A DASH TO THE POLE.

Explorer Jackson's Plans—Some Account of the Purpose, Route and Equipment of the Arctic Expedition Which Represents England in the Arctic North.

Mr. Frederick Jackson sailed out of the Thames on July 1, 1894, and steamed northward in search of the Pole. Mr. Jackson, says the St. James Gazette, is a



MR. FREDERICK JACKSON.

young and active Englishman who strikes one as being admirably suited for the difficult task he is about to undertake. He is a tall, powerfully built man of some 30 years of age, and is filled with zeal and enthusiasm. He has traveled much; in 1882 he was bush-ranger in Queensland; three years later he was to be found on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, and in 1887 he was in the Arctic regions. Only a few months ago, Mr. Jackson returned to England from an expedition to the Yalmal Peninsula and a portion of the Nova Zembla group.

Briefly, Mr. Jackson's plan is to proceed to Archangel, thence to the southern shore of Franz Josef Land. A spot somewhere between 50 and 60 degrees E. longitude will be chosen; a storehouse and depot will be built; all will be made snug for the winter, and next spring the Poleward march will begin. Depots will be established at intervals of about forty miles, and Mr. Jackson hopes to be able to return to his base on the coast in about three years.

The Windward, which is to convey Mr. Jackson and his party to Franz Josef Land is a well-known Arctic boat, about 15 years old, strongly and specially built for ice work. She is 140 feet long and is very wide, having as much as thirty feet beam. The Windward, which is a three-masted barque-rigged vessel, carries heavy sail and has auxiliary steam power, enabling her to make five or six knots an hour. She was commanded for some years by Captain David Gray, the noted Peterhead whaling captain. Before leaving the Thames she was fitted with a deckhouse. Below the 'tween decks are thirty-two iron tanks which will be used for storing provisions.

Mr. Jackson is taking stores for four years. The quantity of coal to be carried on the Windward has not yet been settled. A supply will be sent to Archangel to be picked up on the way to Franz Josef Land.

The tent to be used on the expedition is lined with double canvas stretched on ash ribs, and is constructed so that it will fold up like a Chinese lantern. Each of these tents, of which four will be taken, is capable of holding six men. They weigh thirty-four pounds, and are ten feet in diameter and six feet in height.

Mr. Jackson considers these tents to be the best he has seen for Arctic work. They can be opened and erected in thirty seconds, and they can be so well closed that it is almost impossible to tell where the entrance is. There is, therefore, very little chance of snow being blown in. This form of tent is quite new, and has never been used before in Arctic exploration. As a relief to the eye amid the universal whiteness of eternal snow the tents have been painted green.

An accompanying cut shows one of five specially constructed collapsible houses which will be used as a base depot on the Franz Josef Land coast, whence the party will start in the spring of 1895 for the Pole. The walls are specially constructed of weatherboard, canvas, and felt, each enclosed in an air space. They were designed by Mr. Jackson and Mr. Berthon as the result of many experiments and much consultation. Each of the houses—which are octagonal in form—are about twenty feet in diameter and about eleven feet



COLLAPSIBLE HOUSE.

high. The five structures will be connected with a covered way. One will be used for sleeping, one for cooking, and three for stores and for stabling for the Russian ponies which are going with the expedition. The five houses will form quite a little colony—and a British colony too—on the solitary coast of Franz Josef Land. As the houses just described are to a certain extent experimental, Mr. Jackson is taking from Archangel a small log hut, which will be used if the expectations regarding the canvas houses are not realized.

A word regarding the boats. One will be of copper with canvas gunwales, weighing under 200 pounds, and will be 18 feet long, and 5 feet wide. Another will be of aluminum, carefully coated with non-corrosible paint to protect the surface from the action of the salt water. Mr. Jackson has also had built a very light pine Norwegian boat on the lines of the ordinary fjord boat, weighing 180 pounds with a length of 16 feet. It is possible that two other boats of similar build but smaller in size, so as to fit one in the other, will also be taken. They will be collapsible with canvas gunwales. They will be constructed in sections, and either the middle or the two ends will form serviceable boats alone. Each section is perfectly watertight, and is

so light that it can be lifted with great ease.

Mr. Jackson has also constructed some stores and spirit-lamps of aluminum, each of which can cook for four men, and weighs only 6½ pounds. The impediments of the expedition include 15 sledges, which are being built in Norway, a large supply of firearms, and a number of union-jacks 30 inches by 24 inches, fitted on 9 feet bamboo poles. These will be planted along the route of the expedition to mark depots, etc.; and if energy, perseverance, and pluck go for anything, one will perhaps be planted on the Pole itself. Let us hope so!

ATLANTIS.

The New Nation to Be Planted in the Sea Near New York.

From a window of the building at the southwest corner of Union Square, New York, flutters a blue flag with a red border and a white star in the centre. Just such another flag floats from a buoy anchored out on the Chollera Banks, eleven miles from the nearest shore, to designate that the waters and the sea bottom for a league around, and all that in them or on them lies, is and belongs to Atlantis. For Atlantis is the newest nation on the earth, and of the waters underneath the earth as well, and its consulate is situated at three Union Square, in witness whereof all may see the flag with the single star.

Thus far Atlantis is only a nation and not a government. It exists mainly in the abstract and in the plans and specifications of C. M. Coen, Captain Howard Patterson and others who sailed out in a steamboat, dropped overboard a flag and a buoy to mark the spot, and in a brief ceremony, took possession of the neutral ground hitherto sacred to the memory of the sainted McGinty, and called it Atlantis. As one witness of the ceremony afterward said:

"They took a flagpole and dug a small hole in the water and said, 'We hereby take possession of this hole and declare it a free and independent nation and all our own, because nobody else came to take it before us'."

In fact, it seemed like a mild if rather elaborate joke at first, but Mr. Coen, Captain Robert D. Evans, of the United States Lighthouse board, and others who are interested in it, says the New York Sun, are not the kind of men to spend time and money for the purpose of making other people laugh at them. They are very much in earnest about this project, and, barring tidal waves or other harmful phenomena, expect to have a neat, if not gaudy, artificial island built within three years.

The fact that Atlantis was to be anything more than an island summer hotel was not known until Thursday, when the flag was planted. The prospects does not indicate it, and the only hint of anything of the sort is in a paragraph which says that:

"The rather novel conditions which will circumscribe Atlantis dictate the expediency of formulating strict rules and enforcing certain observances in relation to those accepted as guests of the hotel."

Sporting men are particularly interested in the new scheme, and the centre of it is to them the tremendous amphitheatre, capable of seating 15,000 people, which is to be part of the main building. It is not supposed that Atlantis is being built for the special purpose of accommodating Sunday school picnics, nor has any theory been advanced to the effect that the big amphitheatre will be used as a Salvation army barracks. There are other things for which it might be used with great profits to the owners, and this is what is drawing the eyes of the sporting fraternity seaward.

"No, sir, this is not going to be a gambling hell," said Mr. Coen. "We have no inclination to make it such, nor would we care to ruin our national reputation. As for its being a refuge for criminals, I think that not more than one criminal will ever try to find a haven there. The first one will be sent back in irons if he succeeds in landing, and if any others should follow him they will be treated the same way. As to postoffice and custom house matters, they will be arranged with the United States. We are not going to do any smuggling, and while we smoke cigars and such things can be imported free of duty, we will see that none of them are taken from the island. We can get things cheaper ourselves, however, such as clothing and other things."

"Is the amphitheatre to be used for prize fights?" asked the reporter. "We shall do nothing in Atlantis that could not legally be done in this country. The form of government will be modeled on that of this country, but will differ in some details. Our nation will be run on decent, respectable, mainly American principles, and when we get our arrangements fully made they will be made public, and we anticipate no trouble, international or otherwise, from any of the other powers of the world. It will be one of our national mottoes to mind our own business."

The Soldiers of the Sun. Along the margin of the world They march with their bright banners furled. Until, in line of battle drawn, They reach the boundaries of dawn. They cross the seas and rivers deep, They climb the mountains high and steep, And hurry on until in sight Of their black enemy—the Night.

Then madly rush into the fray These armies of the Night and Day. Swiftly the shining arrows go, While bugling Winds their warnings blow. Strive as He will, the Night is pressed Farther and farther down the west. With golden spear and gleaming lance The cohorts of the Day advance.

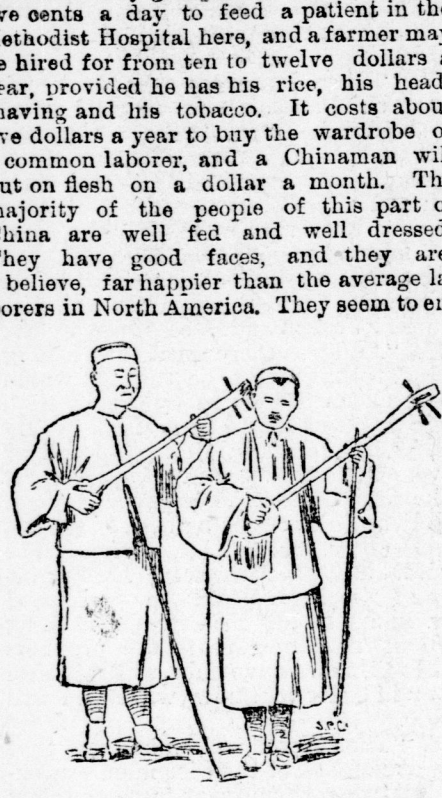
Thus, said, is the battle won By the brave soldiers of the Sun! A Cable's Length of Life. The life of wire rope on cable railways or for power transmission of any kind is greatly prolonged by lubrication. Careful experiments show that an unlubricated rope broke at 16,000 bends over a pulley, while a lubricated rope endured 38,000 bends over the same pulley.

CHINA'S UNEMPLOYED.

HOW THE GREATEST EMPIRE TAKES CARE OF ITS POOR.

The Wonderful Economies of the Celestials—Life on Two Cents a Day and Families Supported on Three Dollars Per Month—The Beggars' Union.

NANKING, China, June.—I understand that people in the civilized western world are patting themselves on the back at their success in economizing during the present hard times. They don't know what economy is. They should take a trip to China and learn something of the science of saving. The expense of living is here reduced to a minimum, and these Chinese millions would grow fat on what the thrifty French and Germans waste. The food for a poor man in Nanking costs him no more than two cents a day, and at four dollars a month a man will support a family and lay up money. I met a fat, jolly-looking Chinaman this morning who told me he had a wife and five children, and his income was sufficient for all his wants. He earned about two gold dollars a month as a carpenter, and his wife makes one dollar more by going out to work. It costs five cents a day to feed a patient in the Methodist Hospital here, and a farmer may be hired for from ten to twelve dollars a year, provided he has his rice, his head-shaving and his tobacco. It costs about five dollars a year to buy the wardrobe of a common laborer, and a Chinaman will put on flesh on a dollar a month. The majority of the people of this part of China are well fed and well dressed. They have good faces, and they are, I believe, far happier than the average laborers in North America. They seem to enjoy



CHINESE BLIND BEGGAR MUSICIANS.

joy their lives and their families, and they are far above the average of the world in their manners and culture. I have mixed indiscriminately among them and find them polite and kindly. They crowd about me when I take a photograph or stop to write a note, they almost block the street in their anxiety to see what the foreign barbarian is doing. Their curiosity, however, is free from malice, and they are not the fierce foreign devil-haters whom I met with further up the river. I find much in them to admire, and I wonder every day of the wonderful economies.

Let me mention a few of them. In the first place in the way of fuel. Nearly all of the fire in Nanking are made of straw and reeds. Every whisp of dry grass is cut and saved. There are thousands of people who do nothing else but reap the reeds which grow along the banks of the Yangtze Kiang and bring them into the cities to sell. These reeds are as thick as the base of a walking stick and are often fifteen feet long. They are cut and stacked up along the banks and from thence are carried up and down the river in flat-bottomed boats. Such wood as is used is tied up in little bunches and is sold by weight.

Charcoal is sometimes found, and I see here and there little balls of coal dust about the size of a baseball. The powdered coal is mixed with mud and dried in this shape. No one in China, however, either rich or poor, thinks of keeping warm by means of fuel. There are no furnaces nor baseburners, and wadded clothing among the poor and fur garments among the rich keep out the cold. A fire is never built by a poor man except when it is absolutely necessary, and the hot water used for the tea and rice in the early morning is sold by hot water stores. You can get a bucket of boiling water for one tenth of a cent, and there is one such store in Shanghai to every twenty families. A large amount of rice is cooked at one time, and the breakfast rice is warmed by the point of hot water or hot tea.

Speaking of tea, there are tea shops or restaurants all over China, and you get very fair meals in these for small prices. The cooking ovens are at the entrance of the tea house, and you have often to pass the cooks in going in to your meal. The tea is put into cups and hot water poured over it. After you have swallowed half of the contents the cup is filled with hot water, and one drawing of tea is supposed to last one customer for a meal. After he leaves the tea grounds are gathered up and dried. They are sold later on to poorer restaurants or to families, and nothing about the cook shop goes to waste. Even the water in which the potatoes are boiled and the other vegetable cooking is saved and sold for the feeding of dogs, and the bones of the meat are bought by the makers of chop sticks. Mr. Ferguson, the president of the Nanking University, told me that he had for a long time trouble in getting any meat brought to his house with the bones in it, and he found that butchers always cut out the bones and sold them separately from the meat itself. You see no empty cans or bottles lying about the houses of the foreigners of Nanking. The Chinese take them. They sell the bottles, and the tin of the cans is used by the tinsmen. A large part of the tin used in China comes from the petroleum cans of the Standard Oil Company, and every bit of iron is worked up by the blacksmiths into knives and farming implements. A large part of the razors of China are made of old horse shoes, and these are brought here by the ship load from Europe, and are carried to all parts of the empire. After the Franco-prussian war they were torn from the feet of the horses killed in battle and were brought here by the thousands of barrels.

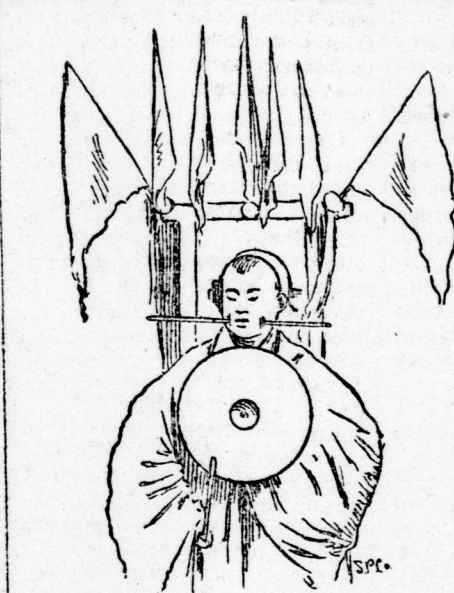
The old clothes man of China does a bigger business than his brothers of other parts of the world. There are streets of second-hand clothings in every Chinese city, and clothes are sold over and over again, until they get down to the beggars. By this time they are shreds of rags, but their end is not yet. After the beggars find these too poor for even their use they are sold as old rags and are bought by the makers of shoes. The shoes of the men and boys of China have soles nearly an inch thick, and these soles are made of rags, which have been washed and dried and then pasted layer upon layer, until they reach the thickness required. They are cut then into shape and are so polished

along the edges that you would think them made of different qualities of silk or fine cloth, and the Chinaman's shoe if manufactured in Europe or America would cost more than the kind we use ourselves. In the making of the rain boots for muddy weather and hard traveling, soles of iron are often added, and the itinerant shoemaker who sits in nearly every block of a Chinese town has big-headed iron shoe tacks to drive into the soles to save wear and tear, and there are places where you can have your Chinese cap renovated and made equal to new. Even the rich, who have thousands of dollars invested in their fur garments, do not throw them away when they get dirty. They will wear a coat of silk lined with lamb's wool till the lining is as black as your hat. But some day the coat will disappear. It will be ripped apart and a preparation of lime and other material will be used which will make it as white and as pure as when it was first bought. The clothing of the poor is patched and repatched, and there are women by the score in every Chinese city who go about doing mending. I see them sitting in the narrow streets outside the houses working away under the hot sun, and they go from house to house and do the patching of the families for a few cash per patch. It is the same with the menders of crockery and broken china. These are so skilled that they will take a cup or teapot of the finest and thinnest of porcelain after it has been broken into pieces and by means of wire rivets, which are fastened only to the outside of cup or pot, put it together so you could not tell if it was really the inside that it had ever been broken. They will mend a half dozen pieces in this way for from two to three cents. The work is marvelous.

I might go on for a column describing others of the wonderful economies I see all about me. I could tell you how these people will take a buffalo's horn of about the size of a cow's horn, and boiling it and pressing it out make it so thin that it becomes a lantern and forms a transparent globe as big as a two-gallon crock. I could show you them sitting in their shops handling old cotton wadding which has been worn by several different owners till it has almost dropped to pieces. They will pull it apart, take out the cotton, half clean it and mix it with fresh cotton for sale. Take a look at the barbers who stand on every street shaving the heads of all males from old men to babies. They receive from less than a cent to five cents a shave, according to the wealth and rank of their customer, but you note that they save the scrapings of the head, and these bits of hair are sold by them to furniture dealers for the making of cushions. It is the same with eatables. All sorts of greens are eaten, cooked and raw, and a large number of the beggars are supported every winter by the government of the towns and villages, but as soon as spring comes this appropriation is dropped and they are literally turned out to grass.

As to beggars, there is no country in the world that has more impudent beggars than China, but I don't know whether in proportion to its population it has more than many parts of Europe. The Chinese beggars are, however, organized into bands. They have a trades union of their own, and they go into the business as a profession. They have their kings, and the cities are divided up into beats, and woe to the man who attempts to jump his brother beggar's claim. There is sure to be a fight and he will be run into prison or out of town. Those beggars expect to get a certain amount—say one tenth of a cent a day—from each store keeper on their beat and you can sometimes pay them to keep other beggars away.

At Wuhu a missionary owned a house facing on two streets. He had beggars on both sides of him, but he finally arranged



BEGGAR WITH SKEWER THROUGH CHEEKS.

with the beggar in front to keep his rear cleared by the payment of a small sum per month. As soon as the bargain was made the beggar at the back of the house went away and he had no trouble since then. Here in Nanking there is a royal guild of beggars, established, it is said, by the Emperor Hung Wo, who began life as a beggar, and became one of the greatest emperors China ever had. The head of this guild can prevent a shop or a family being annoyed by the beggars, and there is a system of buying off the assaults of beggars, which prevail throughout China, and which exempts the man who pays from their visits. As it is, every one gives to the beggar.

The tricks and schemes which these beggars get up to screw money out of the people are legion. They mutilate themselves in all sorts of ways to excite pity. The Chinese are, however, far more charitable than is generally supposed. They take better care of their families than any other people of the world, and a man is supposed to aid his poorer relatives and to help them on in the world. With all the beggars there are, I venture, fewer unemployed people here in China to-day in proportion to its population than there are in the United States.

Our ideas of the Chinese, however, are crude in the extreme. This is a country of the rich as well as of the poor, and I see every hour the evidences of a social, intellectual and industrial life, which are different from any descriptions of China I have ever read, and which are interesting in the extreme.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Baron and Baronet.

Let me explain the difference in rank between a baron and a baronet. The latter is the lowest order of hereditary rank and entitles the holder to be addressed as Sir and his spouse as Lady. It is in point of procedure rank sixty-five and permits the holder to sit in the House of Commons, whereas that of baron entitles the holder to the rank, title and dignity of My Lord and a seat in the House of Lords. The style of address to the spouse of the holder of the title is still My Lady. The rank of baron is the lowest of the five orders of peers and entitles the family of the holders to be known and addressed as Honorable.—Philadelphia Times.

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