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THE POLARIS EXPEDITION.

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PART I.

IN two former articles I endeavoured to furnish the readers of *The Maritime Monthly* with a sketch of the wonderful voyage of the *Polaris*. The article entitled *Two Thousand Miles on an Ice-floe*, contained an account of the escape of a portion of the crew on the ice, and appeared in *The Maritime* for August 1873; and in the September number, the article *Northward—Ho!* contained many additional particulars regarding the results of the voyage of the *Polaris*. Since the latter paper was written, the remainder of the crew have been rescued and have returned home; and the whole proceedings connected with the expedition have undergone a thorough investigation, the results of which are embodied in the Report of the Hon. Geo. M. Robeson, Secretary of the American Navy. We are now in possession of more ample materials for forming a correct estimate of the results of the *Polaris* Expedition; and I propose now to devote two short papers to a review of the whole, and thus complete the story which was left imperfect.

It is necessary, first of all, to revert briefly to the history of the "Polaris" expedition. There can be no doubt that this expedition owed its origin to its brave and enthusiastic leader—Captain Charles F. Hall. He was able to inspire others with his own enthusiasm for Arctic explorations, and to impress them with the