

SIX

THE STAR, ST JOHN N. B. THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 1903

# PRESSED ON IN SPITE OF THE PIERCING COLD Dr. Cook Describes Long, Steady Marches Toward His Goal--Torments That Try the Soul.

## The Conquest of the Pole

By Dr. Frederick A. Cook

Eighth Instalment  
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The ice about was very much disturbed and numerous black lines of water opened on every side, from which rose jets of frosty steam. The great difference between the temperature of the sea and that of the air made a contrast of seventy-six degrees, and the open spots of ice water appeared to be boiling. Anxious to move along away from the troubled angle of ice, the men breakfasted as simplified. Melting some snow, we poured down the icy liquid as an eye-opener and then began at the half pound boulder of pemmican, but with cold fingers, blue lips and no possible shelter the stuff was unusually hard to warm up, the sleds were prepared, and under the lash the dogs jumped into harness with a bound. The pemmican, somewhat reduced with the axe, was ground under the molar as we went along. The teeth were kept from chattering and stomach was fired with durable fuel.

As we advanced the ice improved to some extent, and with a little search a safe crossing was found over all of the new crevices, though a strong westerly wind carried a piercing cold. Good progress was made, but we were not allowed to forget at any time that we were invading the forbidden domains of Polar environment. Starting before the end of the winter night and camping on the open ice fields in the long northward march we had first accustomed our eyes to a frigid darkness and then to a perpetual glitter with shivers. This proved to be the coldest season of the year. We should have been hardened to all kinds of Arctic torment, but man only gains that advantage when the pulse ceases to beat. Far from land, far from other life, there was nothing to arouse a warning spirit. Along the land there had been calms and gales, and an inspiring contrast, even in the dark days and nights, but here the frigid world was felt at its worst. The wind, which came persistently from the west, now strong, now feeble, but always sharp, initiated a pain to which we never became accustomed.

## ICE ABOUT THE FACE.

The kind of torture most felt in this wind and humid air of an Arctic pack was a picturesque mask of ice about the face. Every bit of exhaled moisture condensed and either on the facial hair or to the line of fox tails about the head. It made a comical caricature of us. It was not that in this course brought both sides of the wind and arranged a line of icicles from every hair offering a convenient nucleus. These lines of crystal offered a pleasing dash of light and color as we looked at each other, but they did not afford much amusement to the individual exhibiting them. Such hairs as had not been pulled from the lips and chin were first weighted and then the wind carried the breath to the long hair with which we protected our heads and lent a mass of dangling frost. Accumulated moisture from the eyes coated the eyelashes and brows. The humidity escaping about the forehead left a crescent of snow above, while that exuding from the chin, combined with falling breath, made a semi-circle of ice. The most uncomfortable icicles, however, were those that had formed on the coarse hair within the nostrils. It is to free the face of this kind of duration that the Eskimos pull the facial hair out by the roots, hence the real poverty of moustache and beard. During two days of chilly bluster the sleds were forced along with encouragement results, and on the evening of March 2, with a thermometer and other methods of dead reckoning for position, we were placed at latitude 84 degrees 14 minutes, longitude 96 degrees 53 minutes. The western horizon remained persistently undisturbed, a break storm, it seemed, was gathering, but it was a long time in coming eastward.

On the evening of the 26th we were prepared for the blast and built the igloo stronger than usual, hoping that the horizon would be cleared by a good blow on the morrow and afford us a day's rest. The long, steady marches without time for recuperation had begun to check our enthusiasm.

## THE DISORGBING.

In the evening, after the blocks of snow walled a dome in which we could breathe quiet air, the blue flame lamps sang the notes of gastronomical delights. A heaven given drink of ice water was first indulged in to quench the chronic thirst, and then the process of disorbing began, one at a time, for there was not room for all to act at once. The fur stuffed boots were pulled and the bearship pants were stripped. Then half of the body was quickly pushed into the bag. A brick of pemmican was next taken out and the teeth were set to grind of this bone-like substance. The appetite always large, but a half-pound of cold, withered beef and tallow changes a hungry man's thoughts on fortune.

The tea, an hour in making, was now ready, and we rose on elbows to take it. Under the influence of the warm drink, the fur coat with its mask of ice was removed. Next the shirt with its ring of ice about the waist comes off, giving of the last sense of evilness. Pushing further in to the bag, the hood was pulled over the face, and we were lost to the world of ice.

The warm sense of metal and physical force which follows is an interesting study. The movement of others, the sting of the air, the noise of torturing winds, the blinding rays of a heatless sun, the pains of driving snows and all the bitter elements were absent. The mind, freed of the agitation of frost, wandered to home and better times; under these peculiar circumstances there comes a pleasing sense with the touch of one's own warm skin, while the companionship of the arms and legs freed of their cumbersome furs, makes a new discovery in the art of getting next to one's self.

## IN THE HEART OF A STORM.

On March 27 it blew a half gale at night, but at noon on the following day the wind ceased. The bright sun and rising temperature were too tempting to remain quiescent, and the clouds, the dogs were put to the sleds, and off they went among the wind swept hummocks. We had not gone many miles before the first rush of a storm struck us. Throwing ourselves over the sleds we waited the passing of the ice blast. There was no suitable snow near to begin the erection of a shelter, but a few miles northward was a promising area for camp, and to this we hoped to take ourselves after a few moments' rest. The squall soon spent its force, and in the wind which followed good progress was made, without the aid of the sleds. The temperature was 41 and barometer 29.05. Once in moving order the drivers required the effort to a fair day's march. In spite of the weather. As the sun settled in the western gloom the wind increased its fury and forced us into camp.

Before the igloo was finished a steady, rapping wind brushed the hummocks and piled up the snow in large dunes. The snow house was not cemented with water. The tone of the wind did not seem to indicate danger and furthermore, we were beginning to realize the great need of fuel. Therefore we did not deem it prudent to use oil for the fire to melt snow. Some time before his death, Mr. Hite, according to the contentions of his heirs, sought to settle upon his Indian wife her full share of his property. So when he made his will he cut her out.

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# INDIAN WIDOW WILL SHARE HITE FORTUNE

Her Contest of the Late John R. Hite's Will Settled With Other Heirs

Woman Who Helped the Miner Accumulate His Wealth Now Ample Pro-

vided For.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Sept. 29.—Hite's named in the will of the late John R. Hite, a wealthy Mariposa mining man, have effected a final settlement with his Indian widow and with a few days more than \$6,000,000 will be distributed among relatives and friends of the deceased.

The widow will receive enough of the estate to permit her to live in luxury for the rest of her days and at her death leave to red-skinned connections sufficient to make them the envy of every other member of the tribe. While the amount is not given out it is said she will become possessor of an amount of gold in excess of \$100,000.

This leaves the estate in shape for distribution and, as soon as the court has wound up some of the legal ends an order will be entered accordingly. From out of their bequests the legatees must pay to the State an inheritance tax on \$100,000 they will never receive. It represents the amount lost through former Executor Frank A. Berlin, who, because of this shortage was removed from office by the court.

John R. Hite was one of the best known mining men in the state. He was one of the pioneers in the business. He went to California soon after the discovery of gold and when women were scarce. It was because of this factor that he took himself to the Indian wife her full share of his property. So when he made his will he cut her out.

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# ROBERT E. PEARY'S CHARGES ON FULL AGAINST DR. COOK

The Explorer Tells Why He Declares the Brooklyn Man Did Not Reach the North Pole—Fourteen Points in His Statement.

BAR HARBOR, Me., Sept. 29.—From Robert E. Peary a reporter for the New York Herald obtained a forecast of the indictment he and General Thomas Hubbard will draw against Dr. Frederick A. Cook in the North Pole case.

Mr. Peary's statement will embrace technical points on which he hopes to disprove all Dr. Cook's claims. It will be submitted as proof not only that Dr. Cook was not at the Pole but that Mr. Peary himself is the only one entitled to be called the discoverer of the pole that has been sought for three centuries.

## MR. PEARY'S CHARGES.

"There are fourteen points raised by Mr. Peary, and as outlined by him are as follows:—  
"First, That Mr. Peary and Matt Henson either individually or together talked with every member of the Smith Sound tribe of Eskimos and obtained testimony that corroborates that of E-Tuck-A-Shoo and AP-ti-Lah, the Eskimos, who accompanied Dr. Cook, that Dr. Cook had not been out of the ship."

"Second, That in violation of a custom of Arctic exploration, Dr. Cook had not brought back records left in claims at points he asserts he had reached, notably those left at Cape Elish, Hubbard in 1903 by Mr. Peary."

"Third, That Dr. Cook's story that he travelled from Annokook to the Pole and then back to Jones' Sound, a distance of more than twenty-five and one-half degrees, or about seventeen hundred miles, in one sledging season is impossible. He points out that this is more than twice the best previous record of eleven degrees, and that Mr. Peary's best record this year of fourteen degrees."

"Fourth, That his general equipment was not such as would have made it impossible to have accomplished the feat."

"Fifth, That Dr. Cook maintains he carried a glass and a sextant on his trip of seventeen hundred miles, whereas Mr. Peary used a cast iron sled being broken, but could be saved when the mercury froze. This necessary sometimes, Mr. Peary confends, as mercury freezes at minus 35. Cook reports finding it as cold as minus 73 degrees."

"Sixth, That Professor Marvin brought back from 88.38 duplicate records of Mr. Peary's march and of his own to prove absolutely that Mr. Peary reached that latitude."

"Seventh, That Captain Bartlett had lost track of Mr. Peary's march and of his own to prove absolutely that Mr. Peary reached that latitude."

"Eighth, That the sledging of Dr. Cook was of such a type, not built on the lines of any Arctic explorer's sledging, that it could not possibly have lasted for a march of a day with a standard load of five or six hundred pounds."

"Ninth, That Dr. Cook's snow shoes were of an impracticable type for use in the Arctic and were not the kind that would conduce to speed."

THE WHITNEY CASE.

"Tenth, That Dr. Cook's leaving of his records at Etah was a scheme on his part by which he could claim they were lost or destroyed and so escape being forced to produce them to substantiate his claims."

"Eleventh, That no man who had carried the American flag to the Pole would leave such a slight and easily transported article in the charge of a perfect stranger."

"Twelfth, That Dr. Cook had fresh dog teams from Etah and could have carried his burdens to Upernivik."

"Thirteenth, That when Harry Whitney went on board the Jenny Hoad he did not take time to get back to Etah and get the articles he must have known were valuable to Dr. Cook."

"Fourteenth, That if Dr. Cook did leave such priceless articles at the Etah village Mr. Whitney would have been anxious to have rushed them to the United States."

## DETERMINED TO SUCCEED.

This summary of the lines upon which the fight will be made was obtained from Mr. Peary on board the train while he was coming from his summer home, at Eagle Island, just outside of Portland, to hold a conference with General Hubbard in this city.

Mr. Peary not only outlined his plan of campaign, but made known for the first time that he had determined to reach the North Pole this time at the greatest hazard. He asserted that in the event of my not returning would prove for twenty-three years, even if he never returned.

"I sent back by Professor Marvin and by Captain Bartlett," he said, "records for Mrs. Peary that in the event of my not returning would prove conclusively that I had one at least farther north than any other living man."

"When Professor Marvin turned back with his supporting party at 88 deg. 38 min. he had a complete record himself and a duplicate of my record up to that point, which proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that I had at least reached that latitude. His and my records to that parallel were substantiated by those of Captain Bartlett."

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ments of Matt Henson. My position is unassailable, because I have the backing of my own conscience. I do not care who doubts the proof I offer, who turns against me or what question arises, I have the conviction that I did go to the North Pole.

MR. PEARY'S CHARGES.

"Did you see any of Dr. Cook's equipment at Etah?"

"Did you see his snowshoes or his sledging?"

"Did you see his sledging or his sledging?"

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tain's cabin. He had about despaired of the arrival of his relief ship. He had expected it about the first of the month and it was no without seventeen days overdue and there seemed no prospect of its getting back until summer. Therefore he asked to come aboard the Roosevelt, of course."

"If Mr. Whitney knew the immense value of these things to Dr. Cook why did he not go back on the Jenny for them? Why did Dr. Cook leave them with a stranger and why did he not take them when he went south, as their weight meant almost nothing?"

"You have stated that you knew Cook had attempted to get to the pole before you arrived at Etah on the return trip of the Roosevelt. In these circumstances did you not question Mr. Whitney and did you not surmise what the articles in Mr. Whitney's charges really were?"

"I assure you that I did not know that the American flag was among the articles."

# BOTTLE BLOWERS IDLE THROUGH PROHIBITION

"Dry" Wave Causes Loss of Business, Despite Rum Sellers' Assertions.

PITTSBURG, Sept. 29.—It developed here at a meeting of the glass bottle blowers and manufacturers that the wave of prohibition which has swept over the country during the last few years has worked harm to the industry, even if it has accomplished good in the communities where it is enforced.

It is estimated that more than 30,000 bottle blowers have worked on half time or been altogether idle through the slump in the bottle manufacturing business caused by prohibition.

This is not in keeping with the frequent statements of distillers and brewers that prohibition does not prohibit, but really increases the use of liquor.

Manufacturers reported that in many states the bottle business has been so depressed that it cannot be conducted on a paying basis, the same being attributed solely to the lack of demand for beer and liquor.

Many of the factories previously engaged in this business have been forced to close their doors, and their attention to manufacturing has been turned to other lines.

Why didn't Whitney go back to Etah in the Jenny after leaving the Roosevelt at the North Star Bay if he was so deeply perturbed over the records, instruments, and the flag he says were left there?"

"It is less than one hundred miles from that point to Etah, and then the Jenny could have made it in less than a day and then be right in the centre of the bear country. The Jenny was Whitney's best chance to go as he pleased and where he pleased. Why didn't he go?"

"Does it look to you as if he had left anything there of value?"

"The Roosevelt set by Janie on August 23 at Saunders Island. That was one day's sail south of Etah. She had no obstacle, yet instead of going north to get these things of Dr. Cook, the value of which he knew what did he do? He sailed westward to hunt bear on the ice that was packed against the opposite shore of Smith Sound."

"How much time would Mr. Whitney have had to sacrifice from his hunting in order to have gone to Etah for Cook's flag and instruments?"

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# SUNLIGHT SOAP

A BASKET FULL of clean, sweet-smelling linen is obtained with half the toil and half the time if Sunlight Soap is used. Sunlight shortens the day's work, but lengthens the life of your clothes. Follow directions.