

Capt. Sir G.
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were below the standard which you have now given. Did you find that these two men suffered in any way from being selected although below the standard you have named?—Perhaps you will allow me to defer an answer to that question until I have referred to the papers; but I may state that after the winter they were both weaker and of less use to the expedition than the generality of the ship's crew. The smallest one was the most severely attacked by scurvy, and had been previously nearly useless as a dragger of a sledge.

10. May I ask you if you are able to tell us in what respects these two men differed from the standard?—I should think they were not higher than 5 ft. 4 in., the smallest one was even shorter, but was entered in consequence of being a very good gymnast, an amusing character for the winter, and an active man generally, and I thought that his activity would be beneficial, notwithstanding his possessing less power.

11. Then the variation from the standard was merely in respect to height, as I understand you?—Every man was brought before myself personally, and also before two other executive officers and before three medical men; and, not being entered for probably two or three days after passing his examination, we had very fair means of judging of his whole character.

12. May I ask you whether both of these men were affected by scurvy?—Chalkley, the smaller one, had a very severe attack, and I believe Stone had also; but neither of these men were, or could be, employed on long sledge travelling, but Stone appeared to me to have suffered during the winter more than the generality of the men.

13. Were either of those two men, or were both of them, amongst the first who were attacked with scurvy?—They were used on short sledge journeys, and, in consequence of returning to their ship, they had short rests of two or three days, and were on a different diet to those employed on long journeys; but they were attacked. I think, as soon as any of the others engaged on the same work.

14. Not so soon, therefore, as those who were engaged on long journeys?—Generally speaking, the men engaged on long journeys were attacked earlier than those who, by returning on board, obtained rest and different diet.

15. Returning to the standard; you gave us a description of that standard. From your recent experience, would you feel inclined to modify it in any material respects?—I am more than ever certain that neither light men nor heavy men are fit for the severe work of arctic sledge travelling. With regard to age, I also think the limits are the best that could be chosen.

16. Then you think that the standard could not be improved, so far as your experience went?—Not in a general way; there may always be an exceptional case.

17. (*Dr. Donnet.*) You mentioned the particular examination made of those two men; was every man of the arctic ships examined by the medical officer of the expedition?—Certainly.

18. Were there any among the crew of these ships who had formed part of previous expeditions?—Nobody belonging to the expedition had been employed on arctic service, with the exception of myself, and six harpooners, who had previously been employed in whalers. Captain Markham had been in a whaler, but had not wintered in the ice.

19. (*Admiral Sir R. Collinson.*) Did both those men belong to the "Alert"?—They belonged to the "Discovery," but they wintered on board the "Alert."

20. Then the remark with respect to these two men applies to both crews?—To both crews.

21. (*Admiral Inglefield.*) Why was Stone selected?—On a recommendation from his commanding officer.

22. For what peculiarity of temperament or otherwise?—He was a lively, good-humoured, active man, and a very good character.

23. Can you inform us whether Chalkley had served much in tropical climates?—I do not remember, but his medical history sheet can be obtained, and that of Stone also.

24. (*Dr. Fraser.*) Were Chalkley and Stone examined and approved by the medical officers before being entered in the crews?—The report of the medical examination must certainly have stated that they were under the standard for height, and therefore left the responsibility with me in entering them.

25. (*Dr. Donnet.*) Was power given to you by the Admiralty to reject any man whom the medical officers suspected of unfitness for arctic service?—The entry of the men was totally in my hands, the medical officers examining the men I chose and reporting to me.

26. Were these two men chosen simply for their cheerful disposition, and the good they might do during the arctic winter?—Certainly not. The character I obtained from their commanding officers and their personal appearance led me to suppose that, although under my standard, they would be exceptional cases.

27. In what way did you consider them as exceptional cases?—That short, light men may exceptionally prove equal to arctic sledging work.

28. (*The Chairman.*) Proceeding to the second paragraph: "Assuming, therefore, that the crews of the ships have been selected as nearly as possible in accordance with my recommendation as to their physical fitness, being of good constitution, and sound in all respects, the great object now in view is to maintain them in the same state of health and vigour as when they were entered. This can only be done on polar service by the use of a liberal dietary, both in animal food and vegetables. I consider that the former should consist of 2 lbs. of meat daily, namely, 1 lb. at dinner and half-a-pound each at breakfast and supper, with a proportionate quantity of vegetables and of antiscorbutics. I am not aware at present how far this scheme of diet will be carried out, but, if acted on, I would anticipate little or no impairment of the physical powers; but, on the contrary, with a scale of diet smaller than this I consider that debility of a scorbutic character must ensue, and that at an early period if the men are much exposed to hard work and intense cold; fresh preserved meat should alternate with salt meat each day, with a due quantity of vegetables; and the latter should be such as are of the most succulent character. I know of no vegetable to equal cabbage for such service. This and Edwards's preserved potato should, in my opinion, form the bulk of the vegetable food. Pickles of a succulent character should be added to the diet of each day that salt meat is issued in addition to the ordinary quantity of vegetables, and, except as an adjunct, soup should not enter largely into any diet list for working men as a substitute for meat. Assuming that provision may have been made for giving 2 lbs. of meat to each man daily in the proportions before stated, namely 1 lb. at dinner and $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. each at breakfast and supper, I consider that the breakfast and supper meat should be duly alternated as the dinner meat is from day to day." With reference to this paragraph, produce a return of the dietary on board the ships during their absence from England, showing the changes, if any, and stating why adopted?—I can give all information on the subject, and will produce the papers in a day or two. (Appendix No. 3.) In the meantime I may state, that the recommendations of Sir Alexander Armstrong were acted upon with the exception of the issue of 2 lbs. of meat daily, for at no one time could either the men or the officers consume that quantity. Soups were only issued as adjuncts.

29. (*Admiral Inglefield.*) When did you determine that 2 lbs. of meat could not be consumed by the men and the officers, and after what trial of the quantity ordered?—The stock of meat on board the ship was not sufficient to allow a ration of 2 lbs. of meat daily for three years' consumption. I therefore only issued the same dietary as had been generally used on the last British Arctic Expedition until the ship was