

The first care of the party was to erect a wooden house for winter quarters. This was soon completed, and was inclosed by a stone and turf wall to protect it against the wind and frost. As soon as Mr. Peary was able to walk about on crutches, a boat party was sent to Northumberland Islands to visit the natives.

On May 3rd, Lieutenant Peary took leave of his devoted and heroic wife, whom he left in care of a small but faithful body-guard, and with his little band started for his long journey northward. Dur-

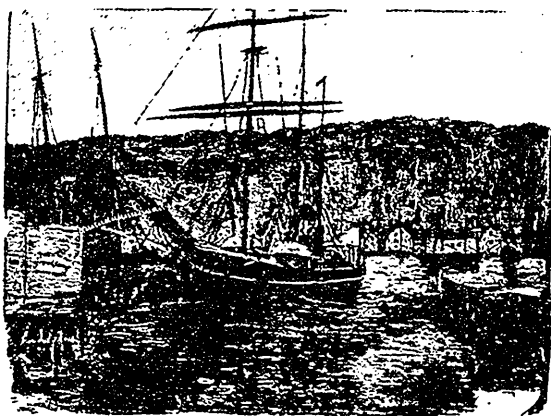
complished almost on the schedule time planned by him before he set out. His expedition proved that the north-west and north-east coast of Greenland come to a point not far from the spot he reached; it demonstrated the existence in central Greenland of a vast ice-cap crowning its mountains and filling its valleys; it yielded a peerless collection of specimens of Arctic flora and fauna and a rich accumulation of ethnological notes, and he was enabled to illustrate it by securing over two thousand successful photographs, many of which are of the highest ethnological value."

Lieut. Peary's subsequent expedition of 1894-95 was, however, an utter failure. He and his party suffered incredible hardships. Many of their "caches" of provisions had been destroyed or lost. Their dogs nearly all perished. The invalided men had to be dragged by their companions, themselves weakened from lack of food, over weary

miles of rugged ice. The gallant explorers can at least have the consolation of saying:

"'Tis not in mortals to command success:
But we've done more: we have deserved it."

"Any project of Arctic exploration," continues Sir John Schultz, "will be watched with careful interest by all who care to follow the men who so fearlessly trust themselves to the dangers of Arctic navigation and Arctic journeys, braving the relentless storm, the driving sleet, the bitter cold, the



THE BARKENTINE WHALER "KITE," WHICH CARRIED
THE PEARY EXPEDITION.

ing their traverse of nearly three months over this most inhospitable region of the earth, no mishap of any kind occurred to them. With pemmican, pea-soup, beans, and biscuits as their sole provisions, and with no tent to harbour them from the wind, they knew not an hour of illness or even dullness. Most of the journey was made over an unbroken expanse of ice and snow, which, rising in gentle sweeps and undulations, attained an elevation of 7,000 or 8,000 feet.

"Lieutenant Peary's long sledge journey and the return were ac-