

"Jackson's success or otherwise will depend primarily. I think, on whether he finds Franz Josef Land to be an island, or like some lands which lie without the Antarctic Circle, merely a spur of a polar continent. In the last case his chances are far better, as with proper men and suitable appliances he might, in the leisurely way he proposes to travel, carry far into the north and on solid ground his progressive fifty miles apart "caches" or relief stations before he makes his final sledge journey to the Pole.



MRS. PEARY.

"Should he, however, as seems more probable, find that it is not part of a polar continent, and that Nansen is right in supposing a polar current, he runs the risk of being cut off from his base of supplies, and must depend upon that unknown quantity in Arctic research, his aluminium and light copper boats, and it is in the employment of these his danger I think lies. He can only hope in the latitude he hopes to reach to be able to travel with dogs for a short season beginning when the increasing power of the sun ren-

ders a portion of the day warm enough to unbend the frozen dog-harness and rouse the stiffened dogs and continuing till this becomes more and more difficult, and it is at the beginning or the ending of this season when the ice yields and yaws and opens that boats would have to be used. It is then I think that the metal boat, chilled by cold, is likely to fail. With the conditions likely to be present, the thin metal will break with the slightest blow, and, unlike the wooden boat, will not yield and rebound, nor can it like that boat be easily and quickly repaired; so that while I admit the advantages of their lighter weight to be great, they will, I believe, fail the explorers in their direst need."

Lieutenant Peary's Greenland expedition was attended by some romantic incidents not before connected with Arctic exploration. He was accompanied by his wife, a young and accomplished lady, to whom he had only recently been married. Mrs. Peary had resolved to share the hardships and dangers of the undertaking with her husband, and she now enjoys the honour of being the first lady who has taken part in a polar expedition, if not the first white woman who has set eyes on the Arctic latitudes in which her husband established his base of operations.

At the very outset, however, the leader of the expedition met with a serious accident. While standing at the back of the wheelhouse of the good ship *Kite*, a large cake of ice struck the vessel with great force, whirled over the iron tiller, breaking the bones of Mr. Peary's leg. This accident threatened to bring operations to an abrupt close, but Lieutenant Peary resolved to persevere, and, as soon as a tent was erected, he was carried on shore and laid on a bed, whence he directed the work.