

search necessitated a minute examination of all the coasts of the great Arctic archipelago, one of the indirect results was the mapping of tens of thousands of miles of coast line and the naming of hundreds of topographical features.

Between the second and third periods, Hayes and Hall discovered Kennedy and Robeson channels—the northern extension of Smith sound—and the great sea of Palæocrystic ice that extends northward from the northern shore of Ellesmere island and Greenland.

During the third period, various expeditions attempted to reach the Pole and, last year, Peary's efforts were crowned with success. As one result, nearly all the names of features along the eastern coast of Ellesmere island, are named after citizens of the United States, more or less celebrated; the west coast of Ellesmere and the islands to the west of it were explored by the Sverdrup expedition and, therefore, bear Norwegian names. Elsewhere, British names are almost universal, though many non-British royalties and statesmen have not been overlooked.

The study of the place-names of Arctic Canada is an extremely fascinating one and involves the study of all the narratives of Arctic exploration, of the previous careers of the principal actors—their relations, friends, brother officers, past and present, of their former commanders, of contemporary officials of the Admiralty and scientists, particularly those interested in the exploration of the North, etc. Naturally, as about nine-tenths of the coast was explored by naval officers, the names of Arctic explorers, of naval officers and officials and of Arctic exploring vessels predominate, the most striking feature in a general survey, being the extreme paucity of native names, due, partly, to the uninhabited nature of the greater part of the region and, in a minor degree, to the lack of communication with the Eskimos owing to the failure to provide the expeditions with interpreters. To this rule, there is one exception, viz., along the south shore of Victoria island and along the Arctic coast of the mainland between Coronation gulf and the northern extreme of Melville peninsula. As these coasts were explored by Rae, Dease and Simpson, officers of the Hudson's Bay Co., they are a veritable directory of their contemporary chief traders and chief factors, of the Hudson's Bay Co.

Derivations of place-names are arrived at in a number of ways:—

1.—When a definite statement by the author is obtainable. Fortunately, there are many books of Arctic exploration and, during the Franklin search the reports made by the various expeditions were published as Parliamentary blue-books. Unfortunately, the reports of the two most important expeditions sent out during this period—the Austin and the Belcher—do not give much information respecting the