

fortunately for us this was done, for at 4 o'clock we sighted loose ice which we would have run into, possibly causing injury to our vessel. We were able to follow along the edge of the ice until we sighted Cape Alexander, on this part of the coast of Greenland.

Arrival at Etah, Greenland.

At 5.30 p.m. on August 19, we dropped anchor in Etah harbour, and found the ship *Erik*, under the command of Captain Samuel Bartlett; the ship *Roosevelt*, of the Peary expedition, had left the day previous. We landed stores at Etah during the night for Dr. Cook and delivered them to Mr. Harry Whitney, sending the receipt of the delivery to Mrs. Cook, in the United States, by the *Erik*. Several boat loads of fresh water were taken on board to fill up our tanks; the crew working in watches while landing the stores and filling the boilers of the *Arctic*. The water was taken from a running brook; the land at the place was bare of ice and snow and showing some vegetation interspersed with wild flowers. The vegetation affords sustenance to deer, musk oxen and hares. At this place were seen millions of little auk flying in flocks and evidently migrating towards the south. The officers and crew had an opportunity to prepare and send letters by the *Erik*; Captain Bartlett and myself exchanged visits to each ship. The captain promised to telegraph our progress on his return to Indian harbour or Battle harbour. Etah being Commander Peary's headquarters, there were considerable quantities of stores and coal on the shore, and here, too, were met a few aged Eskimo in charge of the Eskimo women. An effort was made to procure two teams of dogs, but the men in charge of Commander Peary's stores would not sell the dogs on any account. In the harbour of Etah, especially in the eastern part, a vessel in an emergency could be beached and repairs made to her bottom or propeller at low water. Very few places offer the same advantages in the northern waters along the coast of Greenland.

Leaving Etah for Lancaster Sound.

On the 20th, at 8 o'clock a.m., our last boat of fresh water came off, we delivered our mail on board the *Erik*, got underway