

however, cannot be maintained in view of the conclusions and demands of science. Judging by all past experience, the examination of such a large portion of the earth's surface cannot fail to yield results of high scientific, as well as practical interest, and to increase largely the sum of human knowledge. No man could anticipate with exactness the nature of the discoveries likely to be made, although we may feel assured that they will be numerous, and like all new truths, will be found ultimately to have a relation to human well-being. When Columbus turned his prow to the west, and ventured out into the unknown waste of waters, who could have then conjectured the results which were to follow his discovery, or anticipated the America of to-day, with its restless, ambitious population and boundless resources? No one, in fact, can venture to predict the result of any new discovery in the realms of nature. At the Pole and around it, observations may yet be taken, which will give us a more thorough knowledge of our globe, and so influence the progress and happiness of the race. In any case the path of duty is clear. So long as any portion of his earthly domains is unexplored, man's instincts will lead him to use all possible means to penetrate the unknown, and never to sit down contented while a foot of territory on the surface of the globe is unvisited. Past experience tells him that the results which are least expected, and entirely beyond human anticipation, are those which explorations in new regions will bring to light. The five millions of square miles around the Poles, yet unexplored, may yield secrets which will vastly aid man in extending his acquaintance with the mighty forces of nature. The very effort to grapple with the difficulties of exploration, in these icy regions, will help to develop human faculty, and to give scope to that spirit of daring enterprise which has already produced so many heroes, and raised our thoughts above the dull drudgeries of our every-day experience.

Even now there are within the scope of our vision, probable results more than sufficient to warrant renewed efforts in Arctic explorations. No science attracts more attention at present than anthropology, and in connection with no other are there more obscurities and difficulties awaiting solution. The study of the lower races of man may be expected to throw much light on the whole history of the human family. In particular, a knowledge of that extraordinary race, the Esquimaux, who have their home