

*of retreat.*" Of such stuff indeed are heroes made. For his immense courage and fortitude, for his incalculable patience and scientific gifts, Nansen deserves a place in the front rank of Arctic explorers. When I say this I do not forget the great services rendered to mankind by Hudson, Davis, Baffin, the Rosses, Franklin, Kane, McClintock, Nordenskiöld, Nares, Markham, Greeley, and the rest of the great Arctic explorers, whose doings aroused emulation in the mind of Fridtjof Nansen, and who showed him the way through the pack-ice to success and glory.

Dr. Nansen's work is admirably summarised in the preface which Mr. William Archer contributes to his own translation of the biography of Nansen:—"What Nansen has done, in the teeth of scepticism and discouragement harder to face, perhaps, than the Arctic pack-ice and the month-long night, is to lead the way into the very heart of the polar fastnesses, and to show how, with forethought, skill, and resolution, they can be traversed as safely as the Straits of Dover. While other explorers have crept, as it were, towards the Pole, each penetrating, with incredible toil, a degree or two farther than the last, Nansen has at one stride enormously reduced the unconquered distance, and has demonstrated the justice of his theory as to the right way of attacking the problem. Nor is this the crown of his achievement. As the Duke of Wellington 'gained a hundred fights, and never lost an English gun,' so Nansen has now come forth victorious from two campaigns, each including many a hard-fought fray, and has never lost a Norwegian life. We have