

HOW THE POLE IS TO BE WON

Lieutenant Peary's Plans for Another Expedition to the Arctic Region.

WHAT THE NORTH POLE REALLY IS

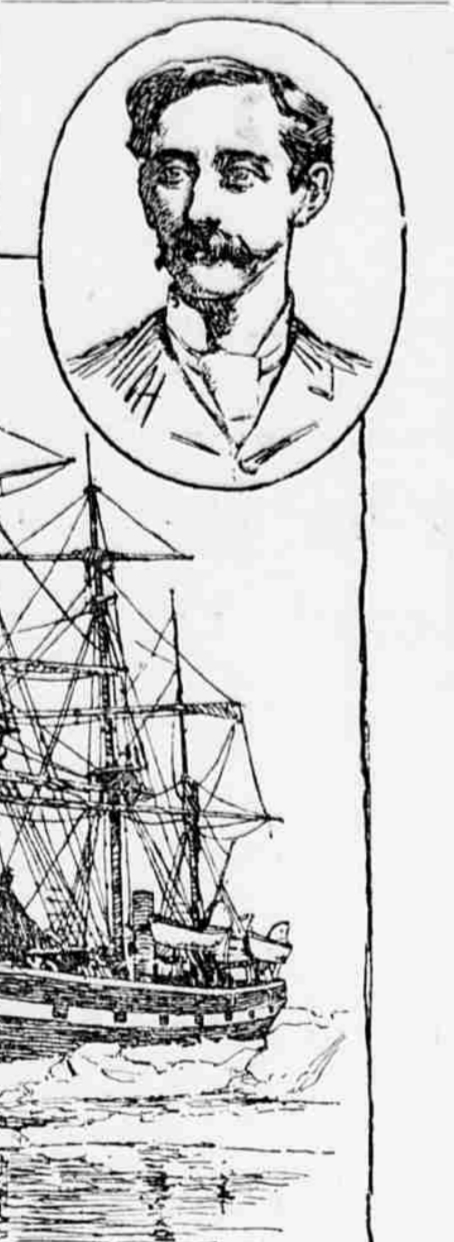
Basin of Supply for a Stage of Four or Five Years—The Unexplored Region a Rehearsal to Our Boasted Civilization.

(Copyright, 1898, the S. S. McCulloch Co.) The war excitement which is now absorbing the interest of the country has temporarily obscured another more peaceful struggle which has been going on for centuries—the conquest of the pole. The history of polar exploration is made up of a long series of total or partial failures. So many have tried in vain to reach the goal that many people laugh at further attempts as useless or sink in undisciplined contempt. "What is the pole, anyway?" To them the best answer to their question is: "Nothing." To the scholar it is simply a mathematical point where the earth's axis intersects the earth's surface, a place where there are 90 degrees of latitude and 360 degrees of longitude or no longitude at all, just as one prefers to look at it.

To me, these are not the impressive considerations. I am after the pole because it

pelago (the last of the circum-polar island groups) and the elimination from our maps of the unknown area between the eighty-fourth parallel and the pole are important geographical desiderata. It is my opinion that this work can be accomplished without risk to life or health and at a comparatively small cost.

Plan of the Expedition. The present expedition is simply the second step of a determined campaign for the pole. The results of the various previous expeditions show that there remains but one practicable route by which to attain it, and that route is the one that has come to be known as the American—through Smith sound, Kane basin, Robeson channel and along the northwest coast of Greenland. The expedition starts, I think, auspiciously. The ship "Windward" is especially suited to face the difficulties of the Arctic seas, and is loaded with such concentrated provisions as experience has proved to be most valuable. It will proceed to Whale sound this summer, take on board several picked families of Eskimos with their tents, canoes and dogs, force a way through Robeson channel to Sherard



LIEUTENANT PEARY AND HIS SHIP "WINDWARD" (FROM MR. PEARY'S PHOTOGRAPHS.)

Osborn. From there land people and stores. The ship will turn back. As soon as the freezing of the ice of the great fjords of the northwest coast permits stage travel the work of advancing supplies will be commenced, taking comparatively short stages and light loads, so that the trip can be quickly made. As soon as the supplies have been advanced the first stage the party itself will move forward leaving a cache behind. As they will be following Eskimo customs and living in snow houses, this can be done easily.

Then the second stage of the advance will be taken up, and the work carried on until the departure of the sun. Each of the brilliant winter moons of the polar night will afford opportunities for continuing the work, so that early spring will find the party and the bulk of its supplies located at the northern terminus of the north Greenland archipelago—probably not far from the eighty-fifth parallel, with caches behind it at each prominent headland. From this point, when the proper time comes, with picked dogs, the lightest possible equipment and two of the best Eskimos the last

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As to the objection that the pole can never be reached it is groundless. It certainly will be reached within a comparatively short time. The distance which today separates the highest north from the pole itself is but 250 miles—about the same as the distance between Albany and Buffalo.

Those who ridicule polar expeditions ask: "Of what use is it to reach the pole, unless an answer could be given to this question, but if there were no other reason than that during more than two centuries ten civilized nations of the earth have spent millions of dollars, and sent scores of ships and thousands of men to win the North Pole without success, this alone is sufficient to make it a prize which we should strive to secure. The conquest of the North Pole, the complete delineation of the Greenland archi-

Those terrible dizzy spells to which women are subject are due to the fact that the female organism is in many ways different from the male. The average doctor in general practices a medicine which is in fact a far more sensible alternative. Any woman afflicted with a delicate weakness of this nature should seek the care of the marvelous "Favorite Prescription" invented by Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician of the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y.

In any case so obstinate as not to be promptly cured by this great "Prescription" special advice for each case of the treatment adapted to the individual case will be sent by Dr. Pierce to any one who will address him by mail. All letters are treated with the strictest privacy and never printed except by the writer's special request. Cases entrusted to his care are in the hands of one who has a lifetime's experience and who stands among the most eminent of living specialists in this particular field of practice.

able occasion is sure to come and the door will be opened or can be pushed open. For a practical attempt at the pole the utilization of the Eskimo is of unquestioned value. They are the people best fitted in the world for that particular kind of work, men who, under the leadership of one whom they know to be their friend and in whom they have the utmost confidence, will follow to the end, faithful and loyal as their own magnificent dogs. What could be more practical than a party made up of the children of the north itself, a surgeon for emergencies, and a leader in furriest will, intelligence and direction?

Eskimos Eager to Help. These children of the north are not merely willing, but anxious and glad to go with me. It was interesting to note the childish delight with which they listened as I told them how they were each to have a "shake-up" (modern rifle) and were to hunt musk oxen and bear, drive dogs and eat blubber and pemmican with me in the distant, legendary Oomiksook Nunami (musk-ox land) north of the pole. Eagerly as these people have looked forward during the past few summers for the coming of "Peary's Oomiksook" (ship), they will look forward to it with double interest this season. They have all the eagerness for variety that is characteristic of human children the world over, and they yearn for the arrival of the "Oomiksook" means that a considerable quota of the little community will go to the White Abvunzh (north) to live in lands which they have heard of in their forefathers' legends, reputed to them from their childhood.

Every one will agree with me that there could be no human beings on the face of the earth better adapted for the rank and file of an Arctic party than members of this little tribe, the most northerly people in the world, whose fathers and grandfathers and great-grandfathers before them, who have lived in that very region. They know all the possibilities and they know how to take care of themselves. According to the theory of Sir Clements Markham, president of the Royal Geographical society, the forefathers of these people, centuries ago, during the migration of the tribe, in journeying from Siberia to their present home, may have crossed unknowingly the apex of the earth. What a striking coincidence if their children should be the instruments of finally wresting the secret of the pole!

Small Party Has Best Chances. The party to reach the pole, other things being equal, will be the party containing the smallest number, lightest equipment and the fewest necessities, a party which can travel fast and continuously. In the writer's opinion, the party which never reached the pole nor which never left the great ice-unsual projects, of which so many have been proposed lately and of which Andre's balloon is an example. If in reply to the first part of this statement the past results and present advances of science in geography theory is cited, it must be admitted by every person cognizant of Arctic matters that the voyage was in many respects a fortunate one and a successful termination about the pole, more than we did then. It is a significant fact that while Nansen is publicly advocating his drift method as the best adapted for reaching the pole, his navigator, Sverdrup, who was with him on his last expedition, abandons it altogether and adopts my plans and their principles, and gladly welcome and encourage my plans, and his own, original attempt to solve the great problem, feeling that the more merrier, and the more chances there are that the pole will be reached.

There is a certain class at present who take the stand that practically all problems of the north have been solved. As a matter of fact the problems of the north have not been solved, and we really do not know absolutely what there is at and immediately about the pole any more than we did ten years ago. It is true that the highest north has been recently moved up a notch, 17 1/2 miles beyond previous records, and, while the indications and probabilities are that a deep sea extends from there perhaps to the pole, yet there is not a man with extended personal Arctic experience who would be surprised if further explorations should determine the existence of land within fifty or even thirty miles of the highest north. For myself, I believe in sticking to one thing until it is accomplished, and as long as there remains that unexplored area of millions of square miles about the North Pole, I regard it as not only a promise, but

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AN ESKIMO CAMP OF PEARY'S EXPEDITION.

reproach to our boasted civilization of today. My project has been erroneously designated by some to whom I have spoken, as a "dash to the pole." I do not like the term; it is entirely misleading. My project contemplates a serious, determined, persistent attempt to win for the world the prize that is the only remaining great geographical prize which the world has to offer; an attempt which may and likely will become a siege. It is an attempt in which the knowledge and experience gained in the past, and which some ten years ago definite and consistent lines to be directed on equally definite and persistent lines to the accomplishment of its object.

At the Wedding. Detroit Journal: "She trembles like a fawn," whispered the man in the white gown beyond the white ribbon, as the bride swept down the aisle. The woman who stood beside him laughed scornfully; at weddings women often laugh and cry at the same time. "Go on!" she protested. "Nobody ever saw a fawn tremble like that! She acts as if she hadn't rehearsed one bit!" And then, being invited to the breakfast after the ceremony, she burst into more tears.

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MIGHTY POWER OF THE PRESS

Its Influence in Shaping the Moral and Intellectual Life of the Nation.

GOOD AND EVIL FEATURES ANALYZED

The Real and Ideal Newspaper Contrasted—Text of the Prize Paper of a Student of Creighton College.

Everybody connected with Creighton university rejoicing at the capture by a student of a Chicago man for the best papers on "The Influence of the American Press Upon a Nation's Life," competed for by 340 students belonging to the Philosophy, Rhetoric and Poetry classes of seven leading colleges. The winner of the prize was John T. Smith of Creighton university, while the third place was won by J. Henry Furray and the fourth by Peter C. Gannon of the same institution. The other colleges competing were: St. Louis university, St. Xavier college, Cincinnati, St. Ignace college of Chicago, St. Mary's college of Detroit and Marquette college of Milwaukee. The conditions of the contest were:

Subject of the essay: "Influence of the American Press Upon the Nation's Life." Conditions: The essay is to be wholly written in the class room by the students of the classes to which the contest is open, viz.: The Philosophy, the Rhetoric and the Poetry.

B. The time for writing the essay will be four consecutive hours. The contestants will not be privileged to leave the place of writing before handing in their work.

C. No essay should exceed 3,000 words, or thereabouts, in length. D. Only the pen name of the contestant is to be signed to his paper. His real name, together with the pen name should be placed in a sealed envelope to be handed to the prefect of studies.

The prize essay written by Mr. Smith follows:

Power of the Press. If you were to ask of the newspaper editor what his aim was, he would say that he was to instruct the masses. If you were to urge him further he might bring home to you that in America the press is the mistress of intelligence, the forum of justice and the mainstay of government. Surely, if unbridled liberty is considered to be the highest interest of man and if progress has moulded the character of modern times these two principles have contributed to make our American press one of the greatest powers that have ever existed.

In the beginning the existence of a free press was proceeding on a precarious and pretentious ground. From the literary gossip of Wills and the Grecian its sphere of activity has widened until now it influences, at times for good, at others for evil, nearly every affair involving life, liberty and honor. It has changed from a paper of gossip to a power of power. The American press is in many respects the best of newspaper presses. True, it is not always so sober as the English, professed to be the Grecian, nor of such literary value as the French, but we think it compares favorably with the best of all. Its untiring energy in gathering the news hardest to get, has fairly won the admiration of its foreign rivals. From Gordon Bennett's time down no labor or expense has been considered too great to retard the progress of the American press. Liberty, too, has never been clouded by traditions of restraint. Milton very happily quotes from Euripides:

"This is true liberty, when free born men, having to advise the public, may do as they please. The press is the highest privilege of the citizen, and it is enjoyed to the full the benefits of an unbridled freedom of speech. Whenever the onward march of thought is unimpeded, as our experience proves, thought will ever be on the advance, and the revolutions in ideas and in views of life are for the most part noisy revolutions and the press is nearly always at the bottom of great changes. The freedom of the press has reached its highest perfection of late years and the advantages of all, highly the great and far-reaching benefits accruing from an unbridled freedom of discussion, we will find many occasions to justly censure some great evils arising from the abuse of the press. It gave to humanity. Hundreds of our journals, especially those of large circulation, for the sake of money and personal gain, have resolved to sacrifice nearly every sentiment of dignity, decency and decorum. In many instances the editors of these papers are as the poet says, "to make immortal standers fly." Even the American spirit of enterprise, which for its purpose "binds sermons in stones and good in everything," has not been immune from the corruption of the press. The search for news has led the press to circulate what should be unprintable news. And much do we regret to say that the star of this licentious yellow journalism, which has risen in the last few years, bids fair to remain in the advance of the press to come. Like the great Edmund Burke, perhaps we, too, should pardon something to the forward spirit of liberty. But no excuse can be offered why the vast influence of the press should not be used against that restricted but vigorous class of journals whose aim seems to be "to clothe vice like virtue's harbingers."

"A Map of the Busy World." The enterprise and liberty of our press have not done more for the sphere of its activity than for the extension of its number of readers. In the middle of the last century, when the Tatler and Guardian were in full swing, the literary gossip of Wills and the Grecian served up only as the daily fare of the aristocracy. The wits of the press has widened until it presents to even the poorest "a map of the busy world." Its coming is looked for in nearly every American home. We are eager to learn from that has been done in congress the day before. We like to flatter our vanity by thinking it what report we have hit upon what the report of this or that commission is to be. Though it may seem to be a slight and a pecuniary advantage is to result. Very often, indeed, in regard to the editor we may say with Byron, "And Mammon was his way where seraphs might despair." And as long as the editor depends upon the extent of his paper's circulation for his political and social prestige he will prefer money and patronage of party to principle and the public's welfare. Public honor and party tribune were never meant to be cherished by the same power and when the public gives intellectual and moral ability a fitting reward then and not until then can we hope to see editors picking flaws in their own work with as much ability as in the principles of adversaries.

Good and Evil. Closely linked to honor and national virtue, as Washington observes, are religion and morality. In one of his novels, "Notre Dame," Victor Hugo makes his hero pray, first pointing to the printed page and then to the lowering spires of the cathedral. "This will destroy that! If we infer from this that the press in general is combating the spirit of religion, Hugo clearly discerned in part the tendency of the press. But he predicted that religion could not withstand its tremendous pulling down power. The French infidel should learn from Macaulay

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which must sustain both the life of the family and of the nation, has doubtless suffered much from the licentiousness of the press, and it faithfully represents its worst as well as its best doctrines. Of all the new ideas and false ideals which the Reformation impressed upon the world none are of such lasting importance as the changed position of virtue and knowledge. It has gradually led to the general practice of the absurd theory of Milton's and of Protestants in general, that virtue, to reach its highest perfection, must pass through the fires of contact with vice. The Catholic teaching in that virtue should be kept as the peer says "out of the shot and danger of desire." Modern thinking has set this at naught. And as a result, the newspapers invigorate a nation's virtue by daily associating it with vice. Don Quixote's proof of his valor, by the moral standard of the best of all, is not less ridiculous than the modern idea in regard to the preservation of the virtue of our homes.

Treatment of Crimes. This daily association of virtue with crime which the newspaper brings home to our door has resulted in making us a nation with morbid ideas of morality. Our press, by its treatment of crimes, has made us feel with admiration toward great crimes. In general it is making us a nation with lax and growing laxer notions of morality. If the press seems deluged in incantating private virtue it is the most efficient means ever known of preserving public honor. Against a well organized and persistent public opinion no individual or power in the state can long cope. Very often men who are blackest at heart are deflected of appearing whitest outside. Any official with even a modicum of shame within him will repress evil designs before the obloquy and opprobrium which he knows the press will heap upon him. How much we owe to the press, ever watchful, always eager to ferret out corruption in high places, can hardly be overestimated. The life of a nation depends upon the vigor and purity of its national virtues and how over must we deplore the press's pernicious influence upon the home it cannot receive too much praise for its guardianship of governmental affairs.

This censorious criticism of public actions is open to two grave abuses—a blind following of the herd and the sacrifice of principle for the sake of gain. Gordon Bennett in 1834 started what was then an unheard of class of journalism. He determined that the editor should be above party and men and actions should be attacked on principles rather than from party rancor. The patronage, however, that comes from party adherence manages to keep most editors in party line. When the conventions of 1850 shall have given their platforms to the public not one editor in fifty will have the moral stamina to follow the path of principle, provided no pecuniary advantage is to result. Very often, indeed, in regard to the editor we may say with Byron, "And Mammon was his way where seraphs might despair." And as long as the editor depends upon the extent of his paper's circulation for his political and social prestige he will prefer money and patronage of party to principle and the public's welfare. Public honor and party tribune were never meant to be cherished by the same power and when the public gives intellectual and moral ability a fitting reward then and not until then can we hope to see editors picking flaws in their own work with as much ability as in the principles of adversaries.

Room for Improvement. If the press were what in our opinion it should be the false position of virtue and knowledge would be changed. We should come back to several of the principles the Reformation set aside three centuries ago. The editor would have to bear the moral and intellectual welfare of his readers. He would be careful about indulging in detraction and desirous to abate scattering scandal. Vice, when given at all, would be stripped of its veneer. Crimes and criminals would be placed before the public in their true light. The paper's business would be, as the poet says, "To hold as it were the mirror up to nature, show virtue her true form." Religion and morality would receive from it some of their greatest helps. An ideal press might be what some one has called it, "The diamond of genius and the sword of truth." Then with morality for its guiding star and genius and talent to support it the newspaper press would be such a blessing in spreading contentment, in ensuring good government and in preserving high ideals of morality that our greatest men might well exert themselves in approaching this high ideal even against the opposition of the majority, preferring, as Burke well says, "To save the man than to preserve his broken slippers as monuments of his folly." And then when nobler aspirations than those of earth, higher ideals than knowledge, shall have entered into the veins of our American people, the time may come when our press will be what Mr. Dana fondly but foolishly imagined it to be, "The voice of justice, inspiration of wisdom, the determination of patriotism and the heart of the whole people."

Coal is dearer in South Africa than in any other part of the world; it is cheapest in China.

one of the truest things the historian ever said. The New Zealand islander and the broken arch of St. Paul, with which Macaulay has linked the languishing of religion, will remain in men's memory long after Hugo's imputation has whitened away, because just as no press will men are men religion there must be. But there is much in the suggestion that demands attention. The press is doing great good and likewise great evil. On the whole, we have no hesitation in saying that the press has a very pernicious effect on the spirit of religion. The newspaper press is a reflex of the hostile spirit of the world. Its spirit is always fighting against the best of the world's religion. The value of religion has been lost sight of in the mad race where progress has turned the hearts as well as the heads of men. This false position and false ideal of our press are diametrically opposed to the true religious idea. Its licentiousness is the logical result of modern blitheness. Its fallacy is its negation to knowledge. As we have already intimated this is a reversal of the Catholic teaching that virtue without knowledge is infinitely superior to knowledge without virtue. Moderns have tried to run the world regardless of religion, or as Carlyle would say, "Mounting the houseposts to reach the stars." And we have the licentiousness of our press as a result. This powerful, though perhaps unconscious opposition to religion, is due to the most egregious blunder of modern times. The intellectual and moral activity of Catholics has forced the press to change its attitude toward Catholics. At one time no occasion was suffered to pass by to insinuate something against Catholicity. This spirit is fairly changed for the better. The press has given to Catholic thought and teaching and action an entrance to circles where otherwise they would never have been read. Our Catholic press has done wonders in bringing this recognition about, but in appearance as well as improvement in our Catholic papers there is much yet to be done.

"Great is Journalism," says Carlyle, "is not every editor a ruler of the world being a persuader of it?" How infinitely greater should be the position of virtue and knowledge in the press! Though an ideal press is like Russell's religion "a great perhaps" the contemplation of it may benefit the newspaper art as well as the newspaper artist.

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