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DO NOT DELAY ORDERING

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944 MAIN ST. Yard, East End Congress Street Bridge

DR. COOK'S OWN STORY OF
THE CONQUEST OF THE POLE

Explorer's Own Account of His Journey to the Goal
-- Hunting Adventures Among the Eskimos.

(FIRST ARTICLE)

By Dr. Frederick A. Cook, First White
Man to Reach the North Pole

THE expedition was equipped at
Gloucester, Mass. All was ready
on the evening of July 3, 1907.
Ashore boys were testing their
fireworks for the morrow of celebra-
tion, but aboard, as our vessel, the
John R. Bradley, withdrew from the
pier, all was quiet. There were no
visiting crowds of curiosity seekers.
No tooting whistles signaled our de-
parture.

An arctic expedition had been born
without the usual public bombast.
There was, indeed, no excuse for
clamor. Neither the help of the gov-
ernment nor the contributions of pri-
vate individuals had been sought. The
project was quietly given life and its
expenses were paid by John R. Brad-
ley. Its destiny was shaped by the
writer.

Mr. Bradley was interested in game
animals of the north. I was interested
in the game of the polar quest. For
the time being the business concerned
us only. If the venture proved suc-
cessful there would be time enough to
raise the banner of victory. If it fail-
ed none had the privilege of heaping
upon us the unmerited abuse which
usually comes to the returning polar
traveler.

In a brief month all had been pre-
pared for the peculiar mission. We
had purchased a strong Gloucester fish-
ing schooner, fitted with a motor, cov-
ered for ice and loaded down with
suitable supplies for a prolonged pe-
riod.

One morning the bold cliffs of Cape
York were dimly outlined in the gray
mist which screened the land. A storm
had carried so much ice against the
coast that a near approach was im-
possible, and continued winds kept up
a sea which made it equally a difficulty
to land on the ice.

In Ice Free Polar Waters.
Though anxious to meet the natives
at Cape York, we were forced to turn
and set a course for the next village,
at North Star bay. At noon the sooty
clouds separated, and in the north
through the narrow breaks we saw the
steep slopes and warm color of crim-
son cliffs resting on the rising water.
Darting through the air were count-
less gullmots, gulls, little auks and
eider ducks. We were in the ice free
north waters, where creatures of the
sea find a marine oasis in midst of a
polar desert.

This kind of coast extends poleward
to the land's end. It is the abundant
sea life which makes human habita-
tion just possible here, though land
animals are also important.

The people of the farthest north are
crowded into a natural reservation by
the arctic ice wall of Melville bay in
the south and the stupendous line of
cliffs of Humboldt glacier in the north.

Home of the Eskimos.
Widely scattered in small villages,
the northernmost Eskimo finds here a
good living. A narrow band of rocky
land between the land ice and the sea
offers grasses upon which feed ptarmi-
gan, hare and caribou.

Numerous cliffs and islands afford a
resting place in summer for myriads
of marine birds that seek the small
life of the icy waters. Blue and white
foxes wander everywhere. Seal, walrus,
narwhal and white whale sport in the
summer sun, while the bear, king of
the polar wilds, roams over the sea at
all times.

The yacht dodged the icebergs and
dangerous rocks in the fog about
Cape Athol, then turned eastward to
cross Wolstenholme sound.

As we neared Table mountain,
which guards North Star bay, many
natives came out in kayaks to meet
us. Some were recognized as old
friends. There was Myah, he of many
wives; Oobloiah, who had executed
Angodigibah, styled the villain by
Gibson at Redcliffe House, and Pin-
cotta, husband of the queen, in whose
family are to be found the only hy-
brid children of the tribe.

Later, Knud Rasmussen, a Danish
writer, living as a native among the
people, came aboard. With him we
got better acquainted during the win-
ter.

Late at night a visit was made to
the town of Oomanool. There were
seven triangular sealskin tents, con-
veniently placed on picturesque rocks.
Gathered about these in large num-
bers were men, women and children,
shivering in the midnight chill.

They were odd looking specimens of
humanity. In height the men aver-
aged but five feet two inches and the
women four feet ten inches. All had
broad, fat faces, heavy trunks and
well rounded limbs. Their skin was
slightly bronzed. Men and women
had coal black hair and brown eyes.
The nose was short, and the hands
and feet were short, but thick.

There was not much news to ex-
change. After we had gone over the
list of marriages and deaths the luck
of the chase became the topic of con-
versation.

It was a period of monogamy.
Myah had exchanged a plurality of
wives for a larger team of dogs, and
there was but one other man in the
tribe with two wives.

Women were rather scarce. Several
marriageable men were forced to fore-
go the advantages of married life be-
cause there were not enough wives for
all. By mutual agreement several men
had exchanged wives. In other cases
women had chosen other partners, and
the changes were made seemingly to
the advantage of all, for no regrets
were expressed.

There was an average of three fat,
clever children for each family, the
youngest, as a rule, resting in a pocket
on the mother's back.

Dwellings of the Eskimos.
The tent had a raised platform upon
which all slept. The edge of this made
a seat, and on each side were placed
stone lamps, in which blubber was
burned, with moss as a wick. Over
this was a drying rack, and there was
other furniture.

On board the yacht there had been
busy days of barter. Furs and ivory
had been gathered in heaps in ex-
change for guns, knives and needles.
Every seaman from cabin boy to cap-
tain had suddenly got rich in the gam-
ble of trade for prized blue fox skins
and narwhal tusks.

The Eskimos were equally elated
with their end of the bargain. For a
beautiful foxskin of less use to a na-
tive than a dog pelt he has secured a
pocket knife that would serve him half
a lifetime.

A woman had exchanged her fur
panta, worth a hundred dollars, for a
red pocket handkerchief, with which
she would decorate her head and igloo
for years to come.

The midnight tide lifted the yacht on
an even keel from her makeshift dry-
dock on the beach, and she was pulled



DR. FREDERICK A. COOK.

cut into the bay and anchored for a
few hours. Oomanool was but one of
six villages in which the tribe had
divided its 250 people for the current
season.

To study the people, to further en-
courage the game of barter and to en-
joy the rare sport of yachting and
hunting in man's northernmost haunts
we prepared to visit as many villages
as possible.

In the morning the anchor was rais-
ed, and the yacht set sail to a light
wind headed for more northern vil-
lages.

Ducks were secured in abundance.
Seals were given chase, but they were
able to escape our craft. Nearing
Saunders island a herd of walrus was
seen on a pan of drift ice far ahead
of the yacht.

Two with splendid tusks were ob-
tained, and two tons of meat blubber
were turned over to our Eskimo al-
lies.

An Eskimo Widow's Story.
Among the Eskimo passengers pac-
ing the deck was a widow, who, in
tears, told us the story of her life—a
story which offered a peep into the
comedy and tragedy of Eskimo exist-
ence. She had arranged a den under
a shelter of sealskins among the an-
chor chains. We had offered her a
large bed, with straw in it, and a
place between decks as a better nest
for her brood of youngsters, but she
refused, saying she preferred the open
air on deck.

She had come from American shores,
and, as a foreign belle, her hand was
sought early. At thirteen Ikwa intro-
duced her to a wedded life not strewn
with blubber. He was cruel and not
always truthful.

Two girls graced their home. One
was now married. When the young-
est was out of her hood, Ikwa took
the children and invited her to leave,
saying that he had taken to wife
Ahtab, a plump maid and a good
seamstress.

Manee had neither advantage, but
she knew something of human nature,
and soon found another husband, a
good deal older, but better than the
first. Their life was a hard one, for
Norlingwah was not a good hunter,
but their home was peaceable, quiet
and happy. Two children enlivened
it. Both were at her side on the
yacht, a boy of eight, the only deaf
and dumb Eskimo in all the land, and
a thin, pale weaking of three.

Both had been condemned by the
Eskimo law of the survival of the fit-
test, the first because of insufficient
senses and the second because it was
under three and still on its mother's
back when the father passed away.
They were not to participate in the
strife of life. But an unusual mother
loved them.

A few days before the previous win-
ter the old father, anxious to provide
warm bearskins for the prolonged
night, had ventured alone far up into
the mountains. His gun went off ac-
cidentally, and he never returned.

The executor of the brother of Man-
nee's former husband was kind to
her for the long night and kept fam-
ine from her door. In the summer
day she had been able to keep herself,
but who could provide for her for
the night to come? Her only resource

was to seek the chilled heart of her
former husband, and we were per-
forming the unpleasant mission of
taking her to him as wife No. 2.

When we later saw Ikwa he did not
thank us for the trouble we had taken,
but we had expected no reward.

The speed of the yacht increased as
the night advanced. A snow squall
frosted the decks, and to escape the
icy air we sought our warm berths
early. At 4 o'clock in the morning
the gray gloom separated and the
warm sun poured forth a suitable
wealth of August rays.

At this time we passed the ice bat-
tered and storm swept cliff of Cape
Parry. Beyond was Whale sound. On
a sea of gold, strewn with ice islands
of ultramarine and alabaster, whales
spouted and walrus shouted. The
grampus was out early for a fight.
Large flocks of little auks rushed over
on hurried missions.

Entering Inglefield Gulf.

The wind was light, but the engines
pulled us along at a pace just fast
enough to allow us to enjoy the superb
surroundings. In the afternoon we
were well into Inglefield gulf, and near
Ittlihu there was a strong head wind
and enough ice about to engage the
eye of the lookout.

We aimed here to secure Eskimo
guides and with them seek caribou in
Olrick's bay. While the yacht was
tacking for a favorable berth in the
drift off Kauga the launch was lower-
ed and we sought to interview the
Eskimos of Ittlihu. There were only
one woman, a few children and about
a score of dogs at the place. The wo-
man talked quickly and explained at
some length that her husband and
others were away on a caribou hunt,
and she told us without a leading ques-
tion the news of the tribe for a year.

After gasping for breath like a smother-
ed seal, she began with news of pre-
vious years and a history of the for-
gotten ages. We started back for the
launch, and she invited herself to the
pleasure of our company to the beach.

An Eskimo Trade.

We had only gone a few steps before
it occurred to her that she was in need
of something. Would we not give her
a few boxes of matches in exchange
for a narwhal tusk? We would be de-
lighted, said Mr. Bradley, and a hand-
ful of sweets went with the bargain.
Her boy brought down two ivory
tusks, each eight feet in length. The
two women...

Had we... to spare? Yes, and a
tin spoon was also given just to
show that we were liberal.

The yacht was headed northward
across Inglefield gulf. It is necessary
for deep sea craft to give Karnah a
wide berth. There were bergs enough
about to hold the water down, though
an occasional sea rose with a sicken-
ing thump.

The launch towed the dory, of which
Manee and her children were the only
occupants.

Karnah was to be her future home,
and as we neared the shore we tried to
locate Ikwa, but there was not a man
in town. Five women, fifteen children
and forty-five dogs came out to meet
us. The men were on a hunting cam-
paign, and their location was not ex-
actly known.

A Thrifty Eskimo Camp.

There were five sealskin tents pitch-
ed among the bowlders of a glacial
stream. An immense quantity of nar-
whal meat was placed on the rocks
and stones to dry. Skins were stretch-
ed on the grass, and a general air of
thrif was shown about the place.

Bundles of sealskins, packages of
pelts and much ivory were brought out
to trade and establish friendly inter-
course. We gave them sugar, tobacco
and ammunition in quantities to suit
their own estimate of value.

The fat woman entered her tent, and
we saw no more of her during our
stay, for she did not venture to trade
as did the others. Manee was kindly
treated by the other village folk, and a
pot steaming with oily meat was soon
served in her honor. We were cor-
dially invited to partake of the feast,
but had a convenient excuse, just hav-
ing finished a meal.

Would we not place ourselves at
ease and stay for a day or two, as their
husbands would soon return? We were
forced to decline their hospitality, for
without the harbor there was too
much wind to keep the yacht waiting.

Eskimos have no system of saluta-
tion except a greeting smile or a part-
ing look of regret. We got both at the
same time as we stepped into the
launch and shouted goodbye.

Aboard, the captain was told to pro-
ceed to Cape Robertson. The wind
eased, a fog came over from the inland
ice and blotted out the landscape down
to about a thousand feet, but under
this the air was clear.

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THE WAS PLEASANTLY

SURPRISED.
Miss H. E. Bell, Wausau, Wis.,
writes: "Before I commenced to take
Foley's Kidney Pills I had severe
pains in my back, could not sleep, and
was greatly troubled with headache.
The first few doses of Foley's Kidney
Pills gave me relief, and two bottles
cured me. The quick results sur-
prised me, and I can honestly recom-
mend them." F. B. Brill, local agent.
1 3 5

FADS AND FASHIONS

The lace covered slippers are pretty
but they should not be attempted by
anybody who has not small feet.

Many of the new slippers have for-
mal rosette bows of ribbon, shaped
like a daisy or a small sunflower.

The turban worn by young women
is a much larger affair than that in-
tended for more elderly ones.

There has been a revival of shirt
blouses which the shortwaisted gowns
rather put in the background.

While gilt buckles are still in evi-
dence, some fancy footwear has bu-
cles matching the color of the gown.

The tucked sleeve is smaller than
the one which is plain and either may
be made in the full or shorter length.

There is no trimming on a waist
which gives it so much individuality
as a touch of hand-embroidered work
or braiding.

The beautiful willow plumes are com-
ing into their own again after the re-
cess for fruit trimmings on late sea-
son hats.

For dressing sacks flannels and al-
batrosses which the shortwaisted gowns
as cotton crepe and other wash ma-
terials.

Such collars will be worn in the
house because of one color and for
modish street wear they will be
less seen.

A novelty in silk shows a corded
effect. The little olive and soft shades for
the background in another, in change-
able effect.

Favorite materials for school coats
for the little olive and soft shades for
tweeds, plain or with double face, and
wool serges.

There is something so distinctive
about the olive and soft shades that
its popularity has increased ever since
the first appearance.

Buttons and loops made from either
like or different material may be em-
ployed for trimming purposes on young
girls' dresses.

Crowns on late autumn hats will
probably be lower than a less impor-
tant part of the hat than they have
been for some time past.

Green is being pressed as a color for
autumn, the olive and soft shades for
street wear, and the pale green for
evening gowns.

A natural successor to the feather-
bos, which, while still worn, is not as
popular as it used to be, is the mar-
about neckpiece.

Jettied hat and laces will be much im-
portant this fall. They make an ex-
pensive but exceedingly smart trim-
ming for a handsome gown.

Patent leather slippers are always
suitable to go with the slippers, and may
be varied by different colored hose,
worn with different frocks.

The Best Time to Buy a Piano

Wissner Time Payments make it easy for
anyone to own a
piano. No matter how little or how much you can pay each month you can secure a
good piano at the Wissner Store. The best time to buy a piano is when you want
it. If you want one now—Now is the time to buy. And you should go direct to the
Wissner Store and make your selection.



WISSNER PIANOS
must be seen and heard to be appre-
ciated. This statement is old, but it
was never truer than now. The se-
lection of a piano is too important an event to be done on the spur of the moment. We only ask that
you see the Wissner Pianos among others that you examine. Compare them part for part with the
finest products the market affords. If your decision is based on what you actually see and hear, you
are confident of your patronage.

Player Pianos are an important factor in the piano industry to-day. They
have come to stay just the same as other inventions of modern
times. You can secure, at the Wissner Store, a good player for any reasonable amount you may care
to invest.

Easy payments make it possible for people of moderate circumstances to own one.

Rent a Piano if you can't afford to buy one now. You can rent a new piano from
us at all times. Then if you decide to buy, you can apply the amount
paid in rent on the purchase price of any piano you may select. Rental Terms \$3, \$4 and \$5 per month.

Used Pianos are constantly coming to us in exchange for Wissner Player Pianos.
Many of these instruments have received but little use and are as
good as ever. The following are a few and on after Saturday will be offered at astoundingly low
prices until all are sold. Come early and have first choice.

- \$90 Chew upright, walnut case—hand carved legs. Good tone and action.
\$175 Reinhard—mahogany—plain panel—light touch—full tone.
\$190 Reinhard—mahogany. Hand carved front, three pedals. Boston Fall board—good as new.
\$210 Leckerling—Studio size—mahogany. Colonial design, latest style, guaranteed.
\$225 Reinhard—walnut—cabinet grand—shop-worn—a magnificent piano.
\$240 Leckerling—walnut. Large size—practice pedal—beautiful tone—light action.
\$210 Wissner mahogany concert piano—fine for professional use.
\$220 Wissner—w a l n u t—perfect condition—good as new. The small piano with the big tone.
\$235 Wissner—mahogany—carved panel—special sample piano. Great value.
\$50 Steinway & Sons—in perfect condition—carved legs—round corners—worth \$150.
\$25 Hallet & Davis—carved legs—round corners—not a large piano—good condition.
\$20 Haines Bros.—practice pedal—fine tone good action.
\$15 Worcester—walnut case—two pedals small size.
\$10 Cummings—sustaining and practice pedals—good action—good for beginners.

Terms Wissner Terms are the most reasonable to be secured anywhere. A small amount
down and your promise to pay a regular amount each month will send a piano home.

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