

THE ARCTIC PERIL

Peary's Method of Battling With Polar Conditions.

THE USE OF RELAY PARTIES.

Without This System, the Explorer Says, It Would Be a Physical Impossibility For Any Man to Reach the Pole and Return to Tell the Tale.

Many persons who have asked why, if Peary got to the pole, it was impossible for Cook to do so will find an answer in Commander Peary's own story in Hampton's. Although he does not mention Dr. Cook by name, Peary shows how impossible it would be for a man without his equipment and system to surmount the difficulties of such a journey. He says:

"Fortitude and endurance alone are not enough in themselves to carry a man to the north pole. Only with years of experience in traveling those regions, only with the aid of a large party also experienced in that character of work, only with the knowledge of arctic detail and the equipment necessary to prepare himself and his party for any and every emergency, is it possible for a man to reach that long sought goal and return.

"In order that the reader may understand this journey over the ice of the polar sea it is necessary that the theory and practice of pioneer and supporting parties should be fully understood.

"The use of relay parties in arctic work is not new, but the idea was carried further in the last expedition of the Peary Arctic club than ever before.

"Without this system it would be a physical impossibility for any man to reach the north pole and return to tell the tale.

"First—Because a single division, comprising either a small or a large number of men and dogs, could not possibly drag all the way to the pole and back (some 900 miles) as much food and liquid fuel as the men and dogs of that division would consume during the many weeks of the journey.

"Second—It is absolutely necessary that the arduous work of trail breaking for the first two-thirds of the distance should be done by one division after another in succession in order to save the strength of the main party for its final dash alone.

"Third—When the supplies of one sledge after another have been consumed the drivers of these sledges and the dogs are superfluous mouths which cannot be fed from the scanty supply of provisions being dragged forward over the ice.

"Fourth—Each division being an independent unit, these divisions can be withdrawn at intervals from the main party without affecting the main party.

"Fifth—At the very end, when the supporting parties have performed their important work of trail breaking and transportation of supplies, the main party for the final dash must be small and carefully selected, as a small party can travel so much faster than a large one.

"The pioneer party was one unit division, made up of four of the most active and experienced men of the expedition, with sledges lightly loaded with five or six days' provisions, drawn by the best dog teams that could be selected from the entire pack. When we started from Cape Columbia this pioneer party, headed by Bartlett, went out twenty-four hours in advance of the main party. Later on, when we reached the time of continuous daylight and sunlight through the twenty four hours, the pioneer party was but twelve hours in advance of the main party.

"The duty of this pioneer party was to make a march in every twenty-four hours in spite of every obstacle, excepting, of course, some impassable lead. Whether there was a deep snow or violent winds to be faced or mountainous pressure ridges to be climbed over, the march of the pioneer party must be made, for past experience had proved that whatever distance was covered by the advance party with its light sledges could be covered in less time by the main party even with heavily loaded sledges, because the main party, having the trail to follow, was not obliged to waste time in reconnoitering.

"In other words, the pioneer party was the pacemaker of the expedition, and whatever distance it made was the measure of accomplishment for the main party. The leader of the pioneer party, in the first instance Bartlett, would start out ahead of his division, usually of the snowshoes. Then the light sledges of the party would follow after. Thus the leader of the pioneer division was pioneering ahead of his own party, and that whole division was pioneering ahead of the main party.

"One great advantage which I had on this expedition was that, owing to the size of my party, whenever the men in this pioneer division became exhausted with their arduous labor and lack of sleep I could withdraw them into the main party and send out a fresh division to take their place. A large party is absolutely necessary to success."

"Narrowing the Field. "I cannot make a choice—there are so many candidates for my hand." "Let 'em hold a primary, then."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"How blunt are the arrows of adversity in comparison with those of guilt."—Blair.

THE PRIZE PRESENT.

It Was the Gem of the Wedding Gifts He Assured the Bride.

Bored, unspokeably bored, he found himself in the room where the gifts were displayed. But then he began to argue, for everything connected with a wedding was a bore. His gaze wandered listlessly over the collection of silver, meat forks, cut glass berry bowls and onyx clocks till it fell on a faded little old Japanese print almost hidden behind a hideous chafing dish that looked as if it might have been handed down by the cliff dwellers.

In another moment he was before it, tingling with excitement, the spirit of the collector rampant.

"An Utamaro, sure as you're alive!" he exclaimed, looking about for some one with whom to share his joy. Anybody would do, so he tapped a stranger on the shoulder and announced with the air of reporting the discovery of a diamond mine. "It's an Utamaro, the real thing!"

"A what?" asked the man, adjusting his glasses.

"It is by Utamaro, the master of Japanese artists," he answered as he fled in search of his wife. She would understand. "To think of wasting it on those donkeys who won't know it from a signboard!" he grumbled.

He found her shaking hands with the bride, so he rushed up and rung the girl's hand enthusiastically. "I have just been admiring that peachy Utamaro!" he exclaimed excitedly.

"A peachy Utamaro? What's that?" asked the bride, mystified.

"That rare old Japanese print up there. It's the gem of your whole layout."

"Oh!" exclaimed the bride faintly, looking a little queer, so he thought, as she turned to greet another guest.

As his wife dragged him away he demanded to know what the dickens was the matter with that Utamaro.

"It was our present to them," she moaned. "I didn't dare tell you. You would have wanted it for your collection."—Los Angeles Times.

A BOSTON LANDMARK.

The Grasshopper Weather Vane Perched Atop Faneuil Hall.

Perched on the cupola of Faneuil hall is a grasshopper weather vane which is not only one of the oldest vanes in the country, but is famous as the product of one of America's earliest woodcarvers and artisans, Shem Drowne of Boston.

Drowne's shop was on Ann street in the north end.

Of the many vanes he made only three are now known to be in existence—the one on the Shepard Memorial church in Cambridge, which formerly was on the steeple of the New Brick church on Hanover street in this city and known as the revenge vane; the one in the collection of the Massachusetts Historical society, a relic of the old Boston province house, and the one on Faneuil hall.

This grasshopper of copper, hammered out by hand, has large glassy eyes, which in the sunlight shine like fire. It was made in 1742 at the order of Peter Faneuil when the hall, his gift to the town, was nearing completion.

It has not, however, lived a life of unbroken peace, for several times it has been near destruction. In 1755, when Boston was shaken by an earthquake, the vane fell to the ground, but after being supplied with a new leg by the son of the man who made it it was replaced.

Five years later Faneuil hall was seriously damaged by fire, but the vane remained intact, and when the hall was rebuilt the grasshopper was once more given the place of honor.

Another disaster befell it when in 1889 a flag was being raised to celebrate the anniversary of the evacuation of the city by the British. The hooper hopped to the street below. But in a few days it hopped right back again, and there it has remained ever since, with the exception of an occasional removal for repairs.—Boston Globe.

When Solid Iron Floats.

Experiments have shown that if a ball of solid iron be lowered into a mass of liquid iron by means of a metal fork the ball at first sinks to the bottom with the fork, but that in a few seconds it will leave the prongs and rise to the surface, where it continues to float until it melts. The rising is explained by the expansion of the ball, due to heating, whereby it becomes, bulk for bulk, less dense than the molten metal.—St. Louis Republic.

Kipling's Corncob.

"Did Kipling ever steal one of my corncob pipes?" said the late Mark Twain once.

"Never, and if he says so he's wrong. He tried to steal one and failed; then he tried to steal another, but I prevented the theft and gave it to him, probably the only pipe that Kipling ever got honestly."

Thrift.

An economical housewife drank a quantity of silver nitrate by mistake. The doctor, who had been hastily summoned, ordered large drafts of the white of eggs to be administered. "Merry, Mary," murmured the almost unconscious patient, "save the yolks for puddings!"—Success Magazine.

The Champion.

"By the way," continued the near sport, "who is the lightweight champion of America?"

"It is still a matter of doubt," answered the wise guy. "Some claim the title for the coal dealer, while others say the iceman is entitled to it."—Chicago News.

STRINGING PEARLS

A Difficult Task That Calls For Skill and Judgment.

CORDED ON SURGEON'S SILK.

A Soft, Round Strand of Pure White Woven Thread Is Employed, and an Intricate System of Knotting Guards the Gems Should the String Break.

Every now and then a story is printed about the loss of a valuable string of pearls through the breaking of the cord on which they were hung and their slipping off and scattering over the floor or sidewalk. Those who know anything about the stringing of pearls, however, always read these tales with incredulity, because nowadays, as a general thing, only false pearls or those of small price are strung without a knot being tied between each of them, so that if the cord breaks no more than one can fall off.

It is common belief that because of their great value pearls are strung on something durable, like catgut or wire. As a matter of fact such material is never employed. There is no beauty to a string of pearls that looks wiry or stiff. It must be flexible to the highest degree, otherwise all its graceful effect will be lost. Up to the time of the introduction of surgeon's silk for pearl stringing nothing had been found that would absolutely meet the requirements of strength and flexibility.

That the most valuable pearls are today strung on cords of surgeon's silk is due to the suggestion of a woman employee of a New York jewelry house.

Surgeon's silk—the thread that is used for sewing up cuts and wounds—is a soft, round strand of pure white silk which is woven, not twisted. The weave, when viewed under a magnifying glass, closely resembles that of fine silk braid and is capable of only a small degree of expansion. This thread is produced in several diameters or grades, which makes it all the more desirable for pearl stringing. These are numbered instead of being lettered like ordinary sewing silk and are wound on small cards like darning cotton.

When the young woman's idea was first adopted it seemed as though it would prove impracticable owing to the quantity of surgeon's silk manufactured being insufficient to meet the new demands from the jewelers. It was also very expensive. But the idea was such a good one and the surgeon's silk was so much superior to anything ever tried before that in time it was found possible to secure it in sufficient quantities and at wholesale prices.

The principal safeguard against loss, however, is in the method of stringing. An intricate system of knotting the thread between each pearl is employed. This prevents the escape of more than one jewel should the thread break. This knotting is done with tweezers and is a task that requires great skill. There must be no unsightly gaps between the knots and the pearls, and the whole when finished must be immaculate in its whiteness. The tiny knots instead of detracting from the beauty of the necklace enhance it, for they look like seed pearls alternating with the larger ones. Knotting lengthens the necklace also and is often resorted to for that purpose.

When a strand of a certain length is desired and the number of large pearls is not sufficient imitation pearls of the exact size and color are often substituted. Some of these imitations will deceive the eye of any but the most expert.

It often happens that the largest pearls have the smallest holes drilled through them, for every grain that is taken from the pearl reduces it in weight. In such cases, however, the risk of the cord breaking is increased owing to the slenderness of the thread and the sharp edges of the pearls cutting through it quickly.

Stringing pearls is never done with a needle. A needle is not yielding enough to pass through very small holes, and the doubling of its diameter at the eye makes its use impracticable. Therefore the end of the thread is sharpened to a very fine point, which is waxed stiffly enough to be used exactly as a needle would be.

Ordinarily pearl stringing is mechanically difficult and also requires taste and judgment. The pearls may have to be rearranged in order to improve their general appearance. In the laying out of collars especially a great deal of skill is required. In the first place, the collar must fit exactly. This seems comparatively easy, but it is not. A pattern is always fitted beforehand, but it is rarely the case that the result is satisfactory the first time. Some necks require straight collars and others slightly curved. The same care is given to the fitting of a collar as to the set of an expensive gown, and it has to be tried on and changed and adjusted as many times.

Dividers are used to gauge the exact position in which the vertical diamond bars that support the strands of pearls should be placed. Endless care and judgment may be given to laying out the pattern for one of these baubles and getting the measurements absolutely exact, but when it comes to be fitted there is sure to be trouble. It may be too tight at the bottom and too loose at the top, or perhaps the ends may not even meet at all.—Thaddeus S. Dayton in Chicago Record-Herald.

THE ALBATROSS.

The Largest Sea Bird Having the Power of Flight.

The albatross, that wanderer of the seas so often referred to in prose and poetry, is nevertheless a stranger to the average person and by some is even considered a myth. In Coeur d'Alene's "The Rime of the Ancient Mariner" the albatross plays a leading part, and one sorrowful for the poor bird, when, after following the ship for weeks, is pitilessly shot down by a mariner.

The albatross is the largest sea bird having the power of flight and is closely allied to the gull, petrel and Mother Carey's chicken. It has a tremendous stretch of wing, averaging from ten to twelve feet. The wings are, however, extremely narrow, being about nine inches in breadth. The body is about four feet in length, and the weight is from fifteen to eighteen pounds, a comparatively light weight when one considers the extreme length of wing. The albatross is possessed of a peculiarly long, oddly shaped bill, which gives it a strange appearance. The nostrils open from round, horizontal tubes on each side of the bill, but at its base.

This great bird is generally met with in southern seas, although it is occasionally seen on our Pacific coast. On the Atlantic side it is rarely found as far north as Tampa bay.

Its food consists of cuttlefish, jelly-fish and scraps thrown from passing ships. It is a greedy bird and at times gorges itself to such an extent that it is unable to rise from the water.

Its power of flight is, however, the most remarkable thing about the albatross. It spends its life, with the exception of a few weeks given each year to nesting, entirely at sea and is on the wing practically all the time. Furthermore, it does not progress by flapping its wings, as most birds do, but seems to soar at will, rarely if ever giving a stroke of the wing, seeming to need no impetus.—St. Nicholas.

PAINTING THE WORLD.

Indian Legend of the Way Spring Came Into Existence.

Once, long before there were men in the world, all the earth was covered with snow and ice.

White and frozen lay the rivers and the seas; white and frozen lay the plains. The mountains stood tall and dead, like ghosts in white gowns. There was no color except white in all the world except in the sky, and it was almost black. At night the stars looked through it like angry eyes.

Then God sent the Spring down into the world. The Spring with red lips and curling yellow hair.

In his arms he bore sprays of apple blossoms and the first flowers—crocus, anemones and violets, red, pink, blue, purple, violet and yellow.

The first animal to greet the Spring was the white rabbit. The Spring dropped a red crocus on his head, and ever since then all white rabbits have had red eyes.

Then the Spring dropped a blue violet on a white bird, the first bird to greet the Spring, and that is the way the bluebird was made. Ever since then it is the first bird to arrive when the Spring comes down from heaven.

So the Spring went through the world. Wherever he tossed the leaves from his fragrant burden the earth became green. He tossed the blossoms on the frozen seas, and the ice melted and the fish became painted with all the tint of his flowers. That is the way the trout and the minnows and the salmon became gaudy.

Only the high mountains would not bow to the Spring. So their summits remain white and dead, for they would let the Spring paint only the sides.

The snow owls and the white geese and the polar bears fled from the Spring, so they, too, remain white to this day.

Curious Tombstone.

On a gravestone in the parish churchyard of Great Yarmouth, England, there is sculptured the unusual representation of a clown seated in a tub, which is being drawn down a river by two swans. Beneath this stone lies one of the many victims who were drowned years ago by the collapse of an iron suspension bridge on which they had crowded to see a clown pass underneath in the manner described. The feat, which was a novel form of advertisement by a traveling circus, was actually performed, but the rush of people from one side of the bridge to the other after the man had passed under caused the tragic ending.

More Acceptable.

The judge frowned down on the humorous tramp.

"At first I was disposed to give you a year and a quarter," said the former in stern tones, "but now I think I'll drop the quarter and give you a year." The humorous tramp looked up quickly.

"Your honor, why don't you make yourself a good fellow and drop de year and give me de quarter?"—New York World.

Back to Nature.

"Agnes sat playing bridge all the afternoon with her back to a glorious mountain view."

"Yes; she is president of our Back to Nature club."—Life.

How They Are Kept.

Miss De Styla—He said I was a little flower; that he intended to keep me. Miss Gunbusta—I noticed him prodding you.—Smart Set.

God has lent us the earth for our life. It is a great entail.—Ruskin.

THE FUEGIANS.

They Are Stunted and Misshapen as Well as Hideously Ugly.

At the two extremes of the American continent dwell the most wretched races of beings the Eskimos at the north and the Fuegians at the south. Of the two the Fuegians appear to be the lowest in the civilized scale, their general aspect being wretched and degraded.

Their hideously ugly faces express the grossest stupidity, and their persons are both stunted and misshapen. The average height of the men does not exceed five feet two inches, that of the women four feet eight inches, and owing to their habit of standing in a stooping attitude they look even less than their actual height.

But, although they are veritable pygmies in stature, yet their bodies are exceedingly large, and their general appearance is such as might result from tacking on to the trunk of a giant the arms and legs of a child.

Their color appears to be a copper bronze, but as nearly all are begrimed with smoke it is difficult to specify their precise hue. The very young children are light brown in color with the exception of the palms of the hands and the soles of the feet, which are of a dirty yellow.

The heads of the adults are covered with coarse black hair which falls in lank masses to the neck behind and on each side of the face, but is cut away from before the eyes.

The forehead is low and retreating, the nose broad, flat and furnished with immense nostrils, and the mouth is very wide, with thick, protruding lips, the upper one being very much elongated.

The eyes are small and placed somewhat obliquely, the iris is invariably black in color, and the white of the eye has a distinctly yellowish tinge. Moreover, owing apparently to the irritation produced by the smoke of the fires over which they are so constantly crouching, they are very generally bleary eyed.

The teeth, although very much discolored, are, as a rule, regular and sound. The men have naturally only a few black bristles scattered over the upper lip and chin. These, however, are carefully extracted from time to time by means of two mussel shells, and very frequently the hair of the eyebrows is removed by a similar process. The males appear to pay no attention whatever to the dressing of their hair, but the women are somewhat more particular and may frequently be seen employing in its arrangement the toothed jaw of a porpoise in lieu of a comb.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Halibut in Canada.

"One cannot be long in any hotel or restaurant in Canada without seeing halibut on the bill of fare," says a writer in Canada. "In this respect it assumes the position of a national dish. It is there on Christmas day and again on midsummer day, and there are not many days in between these two dates when halibut finds no place on the menu. So plentiful is halibut in the waters of the west coast of Vancouver island that Ernest McGaffey on one occasion watched a few Indians, with their crude fishing arrangements, catch 21,000 pounds in Clayoquot sound in one day. When it is remembered that a halibut sometimes weighs as much as 300 pounds perhaps this achievement will lose a tiny part of its glory."

Color Harmony.

The key to all color harmony is simply this—that kindred or related colors harmonize, go well together, while unrelated colors are antagonistic to each other. Those colors are kindred which are side by side on the spectrum band or the color circuit. Red is kindred to orange because orange is an admixture of red and yellow; orange is kindred to yellow because of the yellow in the orange; yellow is akin to green because green is an admixture of yellow and blue.

A Street in Moscow.

One street in Moscow, Miasnitskaya Ulitsa, is devoted almost entirely to stores selling machinery. The windows of these shops are large and of plate glass and display the various wares to good advantage. Many windows are devoted to large exhibits of various mechanisms, and at a certain hour in the afternoon these machines are so far as possible set in motion to give practical illustration of their workings.

His Safeguard.

I knew that Mr. Rurales lived on a much traveled turnpike, and I asked him if he and his family were not greatly troubled by tramps stopping at his house.

"We're not troubled at all," he replied, smiling shrewdly. "There's a magical sign on the front gate."

"A magical sign?" I repeated.

"Yes," he said, with a grin. "It reads, 'Employment Agency.'"—Chicago News.

Precisely That.

Braggsby—I tell you I'm overworking. I am turning out an awful lot of work just now. Nocker—That's just exactly the word your employer used in describing your present work.—Baltimore American.

Plenty of Changes.

"I always dress according to the weather." "I haven't as large a wardrobe as that."—Pittsburg Post.

Concise is vanity driven from all other shifts and forced to appeal to itself for admiration.—Haslitt.

Corrected weekly by the Union Grocery Co.

HILLSBORO MARKETS.	
HILLSBORO, July 30, 1910	
Retail Grocers.	
BUYING PRICES.	
Wheat, bushel.....	96
Corn, old.....	55
Oats.....	40
Potatoes new.....	30
White Beans bushel.....	2
Butter.....	19
Eggs, dozen.....	16
Young chickens.....	15
Chickens, per lb.....	11
Turkeys, per lb.....	11
Ducks, per lb.....	11
Bacon Hams, per lb.....	15
Bacon sides.....	14
Bacon Shoulders.....	14
Lard.....	15
Hay, ton.....	10 1/2
Flour, 100 lbs.....	2 1/2
Granulated Sugar.....	2 1/4
Leaf and Powdered Sugar.....	2 1/4
Coff. Rio.....	10 1/2
Imp. Y. H. and G. P. per qr.....	30 78
Tea, Black.....	30 80
Tea, Green.....	32 15
Flour, good family brands, cwt.....	3 00 2 00
Molasses N. O. gallon.....	2 00
Sorghum.....	2 1/2
Glucose Syrup.....	2 35
Coal Oil.....	10 1/2
Hams city sugar cured, lb.....	10 1/2
LIVE STOCK.	
Beaver, cwt, gross.....	3 00 2 00
Beaver shipping.....	2 50 4 00
Sheep and Lambs, per cwt.....	3 00 2 50
Hogs cwt, gross.....	5 50 6 40
Swine Hogs, gross.....	5 00 7 40
Witch Cows with Calves.....	3 00 4 00

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The Teacher (reading)—"Then the girl warrior faced the mocking foe and unsheathed her deadly weapon." What does that mean children? Well Elsie? Elsie—Pleas, ma'am, I think that it means she stuck out her tongue.—Tit-Bits.

Investigation shows that the waves of the Atlantic are probably larger than those of any other body of water, reaching 42 feet. Waves of this size look much higher from a ship's deck.