

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Polar Exploration

This series includes accounts, by eye-witnesses and contemporaries, of early expeditions to the Arctic and the Antarctic. Huge resources were invested in such endeavours, particularly the search for the North-West Passage, which, if successful, promised enormous strategic and commercial rewards. Cartographers and scientists travelled with many of the expeditions, and their work made important contributions to earth sciences, climatology, botany and zoology. They also brought back anthropological information about the indigenous peoples of the Arctic region and the southern fringes of the American continent. The series further includes dramatic and poignant accounts of the harsh realities of working in extreme conditions and utter isolation in bygone centuries.

The Royal Geographical Society and the Arctic Expedition of 1875–6

The enthusiasm of Sir Clements R. Markham (1830–1916) for travel and exploration started early and took him around the world. Originally a naval officer, he was later responsible for organising the geographical mapping of much of India, and brought the method of brewing pure quinine to India from his extensive travels in Peru. An active and influential member of the Hakluyt Society and Royal Geographical Society, Markham was instrumental in gathering support for this 1875–6 Arctic expedition. He gives a clear account of the funding, planning and aims, the execution of the journey, and how the research should be continued. In particular, he documents the physical activities involved on the expedition, including the surveying of coastal landforms, and the tradition of the Royal Navy in the Arctic. This 1877 template for scientific exploration demonstrates the approaches adopted in the nineteenth century, and is still of interest today.



Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.



The Royal Geographical Society and the Arctic Expedition of 1875–6

A Report

CLEMENTS ROBERT MARKHAM





CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paolo, Delhi, Mexico City

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108049719

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2012

This edition first published 1877 This digitally printed version 2012

ISBN 978-1-108-04971-9 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.



THE

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

AND

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION OF 1875-76.

A REPORT.

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{Y}$

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM, C.B., F.R.S.,

SECRETARY OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

LONDON:

PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS, STAMFORD STREET AND CHARING CROSS.

1877.





TABLE OF CONTENTS.

I.

HISTORY OF THE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN A RENEWAL OF ARCTIC RESEARCH.

								RAGE	RAPH	
Exploration of the unknown Polar region	n. Ne	cess	ity f	or to	king	sto	ck of	our		
increased knowledge									1	
Loss sustained by the cause of Arctic	resear	ch	in t	he d	leath	of	Admi	iral		
Sherard Osborn									2	
His duty taken up by the present writer	r								3	
Recapitulation of former efforts									4	
Recapitulation of former efforts Lessons of former experience									5	
Two main divisions of the subject									6	
Objects of former days must be discarded	d								7	
Present scientific objects of Arctic explo Importance of encouraging maritime ent	ration								8	
Importance of encouraging maritime ent	terprise								9	
Rules for guidance of Arctic Expeditions	s								10	
Recapitulation of rules								••	11	
Consideration of the best route									12	
The Smith Sound route selected								•••	13	
Sherard Osborn's first paper (1865)							••		14	
Discussion on Osborn's first paper								•	15	
Sherard Osborn's first paper (1865) Discussion on Osborn's first paper Dr. Petermann's letters in 1865					•••		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		16	
Detailed refutation of Dr. Petermann's fi	rst lett	er			••			••	17	
Refutation of Dr. Petermann's second le	tter							••	18	
Refutation of Dr. Petermann's second le Want of unanimity		••	••	••	••	••	••	••	19	
Efforts from 1866 to 1872	• • •	••			••	••	••	••	20	
Sharard Oshorn's second paper (1872)	••	••	••	••	••	• • •	••	• •	21	
Sherard Osborn's second paper (1872) The Arctic Committee of 1872 The Arctic Memorandum of 1872	••	••	••	•••	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	••	••	• •	$\frac{21}{22}$	
The Arctic Committee of 1012	••	••	••	• •	• •	••	••	••	23	
Publication of the 'Threshold of the Ur	 known	RΔ	aion	,	•••	••	••	• •	$\frac{23}{24}$	
Paper by Sherard Osborn in August 187			5.00		••	• • •	• • •	• •	25	
Deputation to Mr. Lowe and Mr. Gosche					• • •	••		• •	26	
				• •	• •	• •	••	• •	20 27	
The eve of success	words.	••		• •	••	• •	••	••		
					• •	• •	••	••	28	
Captain Markham's whaling cruise	••	• •	• •		• • •	• •		• •	29	
The joint Arctic Committee of 1873	••	• •	• •			• •	••	• •	30	
Further papers advocating Arctic discov	ery	• •	• •	••		• •		• •	31	
Final success	•••	••	••	• •	••	• •	• •	••	32	
Mr. Disraeli's letter		• •	• •	• •	••	• •	••	••	33	
Further measures entrusted to the Admi						• •	••		34	
Recapitulation of the objects of the Geographical	graphic	al S	ocie	ty	• •				35	
Objects of the Admiralty	• •	• •	••		••				36	
Instructions of the Admiralty		• •		• •					37	
Antagonism between the objects recommended by the Geographical Society										
and those of the Admiralty Objects of the Society likely to be secure		`							38	
Objects of the Society likely to be secure	ed								39	
Departure of the Arctic Expedition									40	



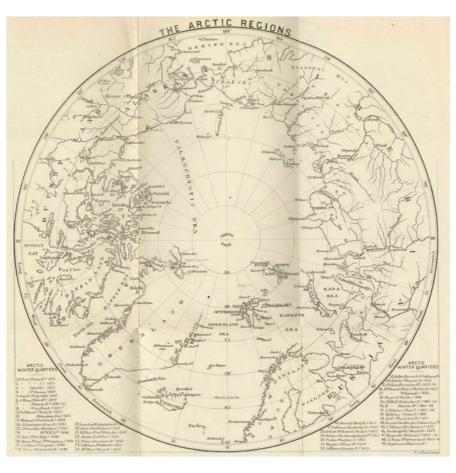
iv

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

II.

SUCCESSFUL RESULTS OF	TH	E AI	RCTI	C E	XPE]	DITIC	N O	F 18	75–7	6.	
										RAGI	RAPH
Return of the Arctic Expedition											41
Published meterials	••	••	••	••	• • •	••	••				42
Published materials Exploration of new coast-lines Enormous thickness of ice. FLOE-		••	••	••	••	• • •				••	43
Enormous thickness of ice FLOR-	RER	GB						••	••		44
Sea of ancient ice									••		45
Sea of ancient ice	the	ice							••		46
The PALÆOCRYSTIC SEA											47
Probable extent of the Palæocrysti	ic S	ea.		••							48
Want of animal life											49
Shallowness of the Polar sea											50
Shallowness of the Polar sea Probable trend of the land											51
Importance of the new discoveries											52
Ice seen by Collinson and M'Clure	,										53
Ice seen by Mecham											54
Osborn's theory based on then exis	ting	da	ta								55
Importance of the land	ew	disc	overi	ies							56
Dr. Petermann's theory		4.		•••							57
General deductions											58
General deductions	diti	on				•••			••		59
Disadvantages of the late Expediti	on										60
Crossing of the threshold of the un	kno	wn	regio	n				• •		••	61
Autumn travelling											62
Arrangements in winter quarters											63
Scheme for exploration by sledge t	rav	ellin	o.								64
Disadvantages of the late Expeditic Crossing of the threshold of the unavirum travelling	n la	titu	de								65
Discoveries by sledge parties to ea	at a	nd v	vest			• • •	• •				66
Opinions on the work of the sledge	e ma	rties	1								67
Opinions on the work of the sledge The outbreak of scurvy											68
Reasons why lime juice was not se	nt v	vith	the	sleds	es a	ısad	anv	ratio	n		69
Justification of Captain Nares .				••	•••						70
Hints and suggestions of Sir A. A.	rms	tron	<u>or</u>								71
Justification of Captain Nares Hints and suggestions of Sir A. A Measures for checking the spread	of s	curv	v								72
The outbreak not an unmixed evil			٠								73
The outbreak not an unmixed evil Complete success of the Expeditio	n										74
Importance of the creation of anoth	$_{ m her}$	gene	eratio	on of	\mathbf{Ar}	etic e	xplor	ers			75
Accomplishment of the aims of the	e Ge	0 902T8	aphie	al S	ocie	tv	·				76
		Ü	-			•					
		777									
		Ш	•								
ROUTES FOR FU	TUR	E A	RCT	IC E	XPE	DITI	ONS.				
The second secon	. 4										
Reasons for Arctic exploration as					٠		••	••	••	••	77
New object to ascertain the extent								••	••	••	78
Confirmation of the rules for Arcti								• •	••	••	79
Objections against the Spitzberger	rou	ite s	tron	ger t	nan	ever	••	••	• •	••	80
The next best route to that by Sm	ш	Bou	na	••	••	••	••	• •	• •	••	81
Four routes remaining	•	••	••	• •	••	••	••	••	••	••	82
Four routes remaining	• •	••	••	••	••	••	• •	• •	••	••	83
The North-east Passage	oot 1	 Do <i>a</i> e	•••	••	••	••	• •	• •	••	••	84
The Issue Sound	ust.	Lass	age	••	••	••	••	• •	• •	••	85
The Jones Sound route	• •	••	••	••	••	••	••	••	••	• •	86
The East Greenland route	•	••	••	••	••	••	••	••	• •	••	87
The German Expedition	•	••	••	••	••	••	••	••	••	••	88
A least and of the Foot Crossland	l mor	110	••	••	••	••	••	••	••	••	89
The Jones Sound route The East Greenland route The German Expedition Captain David Gray Advantages of the East Greenland Conclusion. The work of Polar	TOU	ate onel			ho.					<u>::</u>	90
Conclusion, the work of Polar	1696	arci	2116	ould	иe	COHU	шиеа	uni	rtt 1 £	18	0.7
complete		• •				• •	• •	• •	• •		91





The material originally positioned here is too large for reproduction in this reissue. A PDF can be downloaded from the web address given on page iv of this book, by clicking on 'Resources Available'.