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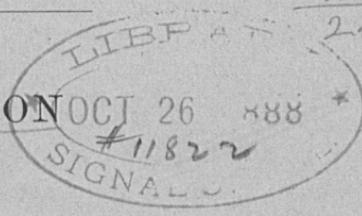
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GREELY RELIEF EXPEDITION.

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RECEPTION OCT 26 1888



War

OF

LIEUT. A. W. GREELY, U. S. A.,

AND HIS COMRADES,

AND OF THE

ARCTIC RELIEF EXPEDITION,

AT

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., ON AUGUST 1 AND 4, 1884.

Account prepared at the request of the Navy Department by

REV. WM. A. MCGINLEY,

OF PORTSMOUTH.

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THE RECEPTION
OF THE
GREELY RELIEF EXPEDITION.

It was decided by the proper authorities that the official reception of Lieut. A. W. Greely and the survivors of his expedition, and of Commander Schley and his command, should occur at Portsmouth, and the relief ships, which had been detained for a few days in the harbor of Saint John's, Newfoundland, had been ordered to sail for Portsmouth harbor. The fleet consisted of the Thetis, Commander Winfield Scott Schley; the Bear, Lieut. William H. Emory; and the Alert, Commander George W. Coffin: the whole under the command of Commander Schley. On board the vessels were Lieutenant Greely and his party, with the bodies of the dead. On Friday morning, August 1, the vessels came in sight, one day earlier than had been expected, and they were met off Boone Island by the Alliance, of the North Atlantic squadron, and directed to enter the harbor at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, the time fixed for the formal naval reception. The North Atlantic squadron, in command of Rear-Admiral Stephen B. Luce, lay at anchor in the lower harbor. It consisted of the flagship Tennessee, commanded by Capt. Joseph N. Miller; Vandalia, Capt. Rush R. Wallace; Swatara, Commander Gilbert C. Wiltse; Yantic, Commander Frank Wildes, and Alliance, Commander Lewis Clark,

with the training ships Portsmouth and Jamestown, in command of Commander William C. Wise and Commander Charles V. Gridley. To these at 12 o'clock was added the Tallapoosa, with the Secretary of the Navy, the city government of Portsmouth, and a large party of naval officers and friends, on board, who, with the members of the press, brought down on the tug Leyden by Collector A. F. Howard, were transferred to the flagship Tennessee. The invited guests occupied positions on the quarter-deck, and the reporters on the bridge. The day was fine and the arrangements complete. Although the reception occurred a day earlier than was expected, the news had spread rapidly and thousands lined the shores. The harbor, brilliant with flags and pennants, was alive with every craft that floats, from a marine bicycle to a man-of-war. The day, the place, the preparations which had been made, the great assemblage of people, and the universal enthusiasm combined to make a reception fitting to the dignity of the occasion, and memorable in the history of naval pageants.

At 2 o'clock the fleet, led by the Alliance, steamed into the harbor, the Thetis followed by the Bear and the Alert. On the decks of the relief ships stood the remnant of the rescued and the gallant band of rescuers. At a signal from the flagship, the crews of the vessels of the squadron swarmed in the rigging, and as the anchors dropped cheer after cheer was given, while the band of the Tennessee played "Home Again," and the shores were white with waving handkerchiefs. The Secretary's barge, with Mrs. Greely and her brothers, Messrs. G. ~~X~~ and O. A. Nesmith, on board, shot out from the side of the Tennessee, and reached the Thetis, where the

first meeting took place. Later, the mother of Lieut. Greely arrived to bring her greeting to her son. The officers of the Arctic fleet were soon after received in the cabin of the Tennessee. Commanders Schley and Coffin, with Lieut. Emory, were the first to arrive, and were received with a warmth that was more than official. At 4 o'clock the Secretary of the Navy, Admiral Luce, and General Hazen were rowed to the Thetis and welcomed Greely and his men in a manner without any well-established precedent in the annals of the Navy. They visited all the ships, the Secretary greeting the officers and addressing the men, who were drawn up in line, with such words of commendation as hardy sailors like to hear. Lieut. Greely and family were then sent in the Admiral's launch to the navy-yard; the Tallapoosa, with the official parties on board, returned to her berth in the inner harbor, and a naval reception creditable alike to those who gave it, to those who were so fortunate as to receive it, and to the country, was ended. Saturday was a day of rest and congratulations, and on Sunday the pastors of the various churches in the city made appropriate reference to the occasion.

THE MUNICIPAL RECEPTION.

On Monday, August 4, the municipal reception took place. The deep interest felt in the occasion by the citizens of Portsmouth led to a general discussion on the part of prominent citizens concerning the propriety of a reception by the city. The matter was agitated in the city government and resulted in a vote for a reception, and in the appointment of a committee, consisting of Mayor Treat, with Aldermen Martin, Sampson, Caswell, and Hackett, to consult with the Secretary of the Navy.

The consultation was held and a general plan was outlined. It was intended to be an occasion on which the commonwealth and the nation should unite with the city of Portsmouth in the reception of her distinguished guests, and that it should consist of a procession during the day and a meeting with addresses in the evening. At a meeting composed of members of the city government and citizens three committees were appointed to mature and carry out the general design, as follows :

Committee on Invitations: John H. Broughton, chairman ; James H. Stanwood, secretary.

Committee on Reception: Wm. H. Sise, chairman ; Samuel Dodge, secretary.

Committee on Evening Exercises : Rev. W. A. McGinley, chairman ; Rev. Henry E. Hovey, secretary.

Col. Elbridge G. Pierce was chosen chief marshal of the day, and the time was fixed for Monday, August 4.

With the co-operation of the Secretary of the Navy the arrangements progressed rapidly to a successful completion. The accidental presence of the North Atlantic squadron, the training ships, and the school ships from Annapolis in the harbor placed at command a greater amount of material for such an occasion than had ever been at one time in this port, from which was furnished the most imposing part of the display. Invitations were given to the mayor and aldermen of Newburyport, and arrangements made which resulted in the programmes which are inserted in their proper places.

The day was all that could be desired. Many public and private buildings were elegantly decorated. From ten to fifteen thousand strangers from far and near were upon the streets. The route of the procession was about three miles in length. The number in line was

over two thousand, but composed of so many separate companies, detachments, and organizations as to present a much more imposing appearance than the numbers would indicate. The enthusiasm of the multitude was in keeping with the spirit of the occasion. The order of the procession was as follows :

PROCESSION.

City Marshal, mounted.

Platoon of police.

Chief marshal, Elbridge G. Pierce, jr.

George E. Hodgdon, chief of staff.

R. Hamilton Perkins, John Hatch, J. Dwight

Rundlet, C. W. Tracy, G. S. Broome, aids.

FIRST DIVISION.

Calvin L. Hayes, marshal.

Moses D. Moore, Willard Spinney, aids.

South Berwick Band.

NAVAL DIVISION.

Comd'r N. H. Farquhar commanding.

Lieut. R. T. Jasper, adjutant; Lieut. A. C. Dilling-

ham, assistant adjutant; Lieut. J. C. Cresap, aid,

Ensign F. E. Culver, aid;

Ensign H. S. Knapp, aid; Passed Asst. Surgeon

Murray, surgeon.

BATTALION NAVAL CADETS.

Ensign Fullam commanding.

First company naval cadets: Cadet Tawresey
commanding.

Second company naval cadets: Cadet McKay
commanding.

Third company naval cadets: Cadet Jaynes
commanding.

BATTALION U. S. MARINES.

Lieut. Col. J. L. Broome commanding.

First company, Captain Pope, commanding.

Second company, Captain Young, commanding.

Third company, First Lieutenant Goodrell, command-
ing.

Fourth company, Lieutenant Gulick, commanding.

Fifth company, Lieutenant Reid, commanding.

Sixth company, Lieutenant Bates, commanding.

BATTALION NAVAL APPRENTICES.

Lieutenant Remy commanding.

First company, Lieutenant Comly, commanding.

Second company, Lieutenant Heilner, commanding.

Third company, Ensign Sears, commanding.

Fourth company, Ensign Constant, commanding.

Fifth company, Lieutenant Nicholson, commanding.

Sixth company, Lieutenant Hodgson, commanding.

Seventh company, Ensign Blish, commanding.

Eighth company, Ensign Maxwell, commanding.

NAVAL BRIGADE, N. A. FLEET.

U. S. S. Tennessee Band.

Lieut. Com'r B. P. Lamberton, commanding
brigade.

Lient. C. E. Colahan, adjutant; Lieut. R. H. McLean,
aid.

Naval Cadet Roger Wells, aid.

P. A. Surgeon R. Ashbridge, surgeon.

Asst. Paymaster Carpenter, quartermaster.

Corps of Pioneers, Ensign Rose.

Infantry Battalion: Lieutenant Rodgers commanding.

First company, Lieutenant Kimball, commanding.

Second company, Lieutenant Collins, commanding.

Third company, Lieutenant Downes, commanding.

Fourth company, Cadet Ledbetter, commanding.

Fifth company, Lieutenant Paine, commanding.

Sixth company, Lieutenant Peters, commanding.

Seventh company, Lieutenant Noel, commanding.

Eighth company, Ensign Wall, commanding.

Ninth company, Ensign Newton, commanding.

Tenth company, Lieutenant Reynolds, commanding.

Artillery Battalion: Lieut. T. T. Wood.

First platoon, Lieutenant Wainwright, commanding.

Second platoon, Lieutenant Sawyer, commanding.

Third platoon, Lieutenant Wright, commanding.

Belknap Rifles (Co. K, 3d Regt. N. H. N. G.),

Captain Demerit.

Strafford Guards (Co. A, 1st Regt.).

Rollins Rifles (3d Regt.).

Laconia Guards (3d Regt.).

Bell Rifles (Co. D, 1st Regt.).

SECOND DIVISION.

Caleb N. Lord, marshal. George H. Sanderson, aid.

Portsmouth Cavalry, Capt. John S. Perry.

Carriages containing

Secretary of the Navy ; officers of the Navy ; Survivors
of the Greely Expedition ; Officers of Relief
Expedition ; Governor of New Hamp-
shire and Staff ;
Portsmouth City Government and invited
guests.

THIRD DIVISION.

Capt. E. D. Coffin, marshal.
Michael Crowley, C. H. Waddam, aids ;
Salem Brass Band.
DeWitt Clinton Commandery, K. T., S. K. A. P. Pres-
tor.
E. C. Carter's Band, (Boston).
Newburyport Commandery, K. T., J. C. Kimball, acting
commander.

FOURTH DIVISION.

Capt. James E. Ford, marshal.
H. W. Oxford, E. D. Woods, A. S. Gerrish, aids.
Portsmouth Cornet Band.
Storer Post, No. 1, G. A. R., S. V. C. Charles H. Bes-
selievre.
Sawyer Post, No. 17, Dover, N. H., B. F. Rackley.
Parker Post, No. 99, G. A. R., Kittery, Me., Charles
Chickering.
H. L. Richards Camp, S. V., Michael Crowley, captain.
Portsmouth Light Artillery, Col. T. E. O. Marvin.

FIFTH DIVISION.

Herman Manson, marshal.
Henry Wendell, Charles Hayes, aids.

Portsmouth Fire Department.

Dover Cornet Band, W. D. Taylor, leader.

Chief engineer, Willard Sears.

Assistant engineers: George P. Philbrick, Herbert A.

Marden, Wm. H. Deverson.

James L. Parker, clerk.

Colonel Sise, S. F. E., Co. No. 2, J. D. Randall, foreman.

Kearsarge, S. F. E., Co. No. 3, W. J. Sampson, foreman.

M. H. Goodrich, S. F. E., Co. No. 4, Charles H. Foote, foreman.

Hook & Ladder, Garibaldi No. 1, George W. Green, foreman.

The procession was formed on Congress street. The First and Second Divisions formed on the south side of the street, right resting on Pleasant street. The Third, Fourth, and Fifth Divisions formed on the north side of Congress street. The line of march was from Market Square through Pleasant to State, through State to Middle, Middle to Court, Court to Pleasant, Pleasant to Water, Water to State, State to Middle, Middle to Cass, Cass to Islington, Islington back to Market Square. Secretary Chandler, General Hazen, with Admirals Wells and Luce, occupied the first carriage. This was followed by a long line of carriages, containing Commander Schley and the officers of the Relief Expedition, officers from the North Atlantic Squadron, Governor S. W. Hale, of New Hampshire, and many distinguished civilians and strangers.

About one o'clock the head of the procession appeared on Market Square, where a large stand had been erected, to which the survivors were conducted by Mr.

James H. Stanwood, secretary of the committee of reception. Lieut. A. W. Greely, Sergeants R. L. Brainard, Julius Fredericks, and Francis Long, Hospital Steward Henry Biederbeck, and Private Maurice Connell, the sole survivors of the expedition, occupied the central places on the first row of seats. Secretary Chandler, Rear Admirals Clark H. Wells and Stephen B. Luce, with Commanders Schley and Coffin, and Lieutenant Emory, at this point came upon the stage, where were also seated Governor Hale and staff, ex-Governors Smith and Weston, Congressman Haynes, and many other prominent gentlemen. Among the ladies were the mother and wife of Lieutenant Greely.

The square was a solid mass of human beings. The surrounding windows and roofs were thronged with eager faces. The crowd was wild with enthusiasm. The cheering seemed to well up from an inexhaustible fountain. When the gallant crews of the relief ships passed in the procession, the men they had rescued rose and stood uncovered. As thus the rescued and the rescuers, officers and men, stood face to face, tears filled many eyes, and the welkin rang with the shouts of the multitude. The line melted away as it passed the stand, and the most splendid spectacle that ever graced the city or State faded from view, and became one of those beautiful memories which history at last takes and hangs in the gallery of her triumphs.

EXERCISES IN MUSIC HALL.

The programme previously arranged for the occasion was as follows :

The meeting will be called to order by Rev. William A. McGinley, temporary chairman.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. William H. Alden.

Opening address by Rev. William A. McGinley.

Address for the city by Hon. John S. Treat, mayor.

Address for the citizens, by Rev. Henry E. Hovey.

At this point the chair will be taken by Hon. William E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy, as permanent chairman.

Address of welcome in behalf of the State of New Hampshire, by Gov. Samuel W. Hale.

Address in behalf of the House Committee on Greely Relief Bill, by Hon. Samuel J. Randall, of Pennsylvania.

Address in behalf of the Senate Committee on Greely Relief Bill, by Hon. Eugene Hale, of Maine.

In behalf of the survivors of the expedition of 1881, by Lieutenant Greely or his representative.

In behalf of the relief expedition, by Commander Schley, commanding the expedition.

The presence of General B. F. Butler, of Massachusetts, and ex-Secretary of the Navy George M. Robeson, of New Jersey, in the city, occasioned their addition to the list of speakers.

Music Hall was filled with a brilliant assemblage. Seats had been reserved in the front of the auditorium for the crews of the Arctic fleet and the officers of the North Atlantic squadron. The relief crews made a gallant appearance and were received with a round of applause. Upon the stage sat Secretary Chandler, General Hazen, Admirals Wells and Luce, Commanders Schley and Coffin, Lieutenant Emory, Hon. Samuel J. Randall, of Pennsylvania; Hon. Eugene Hale, of Maine; ex-Secretary Robeson, of New Jersey; Hon. W. E. Robinson, of New York; General B. F. Butler, of Massa-

chusetts ; Governor Hale and staff, of New Hampshire ; Mayor Treat, Hon. Frank Jones, Rev. Dr. Alden, Rev. Mr. Hovey, Rev. Mr. Goss, E. P. Kimball, John S. Rand, E. G. Pierce, A. F. Howard, W. H. Sise, Sheriff Kent, Alderman Hackett, C. M. Gignoux, and many other prominent citizens. Lieutenant Greely and the rest of the survivors were so much wearied with the exercises of the day, that in their weak condition the surgeon forbade their attendance, to the great regret of all.

The meeting was called to order by Rev. W. A. McGinley. Rev. W. H. Alden, D. D., then, at the request of the chairman, led the assembly in a prayer eminently suitable to the occasion.

REV. MR. M'GINLEY.

Rev. Mr. MCGINLEY, who was to have made the opening address, then said :

Owing to the fact that I have already spoken at length in my pulpit upon the general subject, the lateness of the hour, the admirable patience of the audience in an unavoidable delay, and that there are several distinguished gentlemen unexpectedly present with us, I will omit the address which I had prepared, and at once introduce his honor Mayor John S. Treat, who will address you on behalf of the city government.

MAYOR TREAT.

MAYOR TREAT spoke as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT AND FELLOW CITIZENS: It devolves on me, and I have the pleasure in behalf of the citizens of Portsmouth, to extend the hospitality of the city, and a cordial and hearty welcome to Lieutenant Greely and

the survivors of his Arctic expedition, and also to the gallant officers and men who have evinced so much bravery and skill in battling with the elements, and who, under Providence, were so fortunate as to have their labors crowned with success in rescuing this noble band from an untimely and terrible death from starvation. Our citizens in common with those of the whole country, and I might say the civilized world (for every throb of the electric cord sends its light of joy or shade of sadness to all parts of the world), felt a keen interest in the success of that humane and noble enterprise, which had for its object the relief of those brave men, who years before, in the interest of science, embarked in the perilous enterprise of exploring the Arctic seas, and who, if alive, must be in a state of great peril and suffering. As events proved, succor did not find them an hour too soon, and for the want of that timely succor all would have soon perished. I cannot forbear in this connection to mention to his credit, and it is with some degree of State pride that I allude to the fact, that it was a son of New Hampshire who hastened the departure of this expedition in advance of the common routine of "red tape." It is not too much to say that the progress of few naval expeditions has been watched with more solicitude than the one which sailed from New York in the early summer of 1884, and which has just arrived at this port. The courage, the fortitude, and skill evinced by the officers and men of this expedition have furnished another illustration of the general truth that "Peace has its victories no less renowned than war."

But the general and deep interest felt throughout the country in the success of this enterprise forbids that

any section should attempt a monopoly of the universal joy which thrilled the whole country when on the 17th of July the telegraph announced that the relief ship *Thetis* had arrived at the port of Saint John's, Newfoundland, and that Lieutenant Greely and the remnant of his Arctic exploring party had been discovered and rescued.

It was a joy mingled with sadness for the fate of those of his expedition who had perished in the Arctic regions, and who will never more return to friends and home. I but express the common and unanimous feeling of our citizens when I bid you all a cordial welcome to the hospitality and freedom of our beloved city. [Applause.]

REV. MR. HOVEY.

Rev. HENRY E. HOVEY was then introduced on behalf of the citizens of Portsmouth. He was warmly received, and spoke as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT; LIEUTENANT GREELY, COMMANDER SCHLEY; GENTLEMEN OF THE RESCUING EXPEDITION; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I gladly accept the invitation of the committee to make the address of welcome to those brave men, on behalf of the citizens of Portsmouth. His honor the mayor having represented the city in a municipal capacity, it is for me to speak for the people at large—for the general population—and to tell these heroes here to-night that the hearts of the assemblage here present, and the hearts of many times the number throughout the homes of our fair city, go out to them, and surround them and inclose them.

We modestly suppose that Portsmouth is as good a place as any in the country to appreciate the labors and

self-denials of explorers. The same admirable spirit which was in Lieutenant Greely, led Martin Pring in 1603 to penetrate our Piscataqua River. He had been sent to explore the coast of Virginia, but a restless enterprise sent him also further North. It was the same indomitable pluck again a few years later which brought Mons. Champlain to yonder Odiorne's Point, and Captain John Smith to the Isles of Shoals and our own Strawberry Bank, or led Fernando Gorges and John Mason in 1631 to extend the benefits of civilization to this then far northern shore. All these exploits are a part of our history, and all along from those early days to the present, we have had (I suppose) our full share of men who have done their part well, in the achievements of geographical research and the various heroic deeds of those who go down to the sea in ships.

Such, Lieutenant Greely and gentlemen, having been the character of our past history, you may well believe that it is with the greatest pride and pleasure that we stretch out our hands and our hearts to you to-night, coming hither from your achievements in the far north. Naturally interested in you and your work, we have followed your career even from the first. We watched you afar off in 1881, when you set sail for those dread regions of the North Pole; we waited with what patience we could through the long years for some news of you; and when that news came the other day there was through our streets the mingled sense of grief at the fate of the departed, of joy at the safety of the living, and of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the wonderful, providential leading by which He directed the rescuing fleet straight to the spot where you lay in suffer-

ing, and at so critical a moment for the preservation of your lives; and it adds to our pride and joy to know that in that same rescuing party were two of our Portsmouth boys.

Again, gentlemen, our citizens here welcome you to your native shores. We claim to be your kinsfolk, and congratulate ourselves on the fact. We rejoice that American manhood has once more shown itself to be true and staunch and good, and that in your hands it has seen the American flag planted nearer the North Pole than any other. Coming fresh from such an achievement, you may well expect ovations wherever you may go. But however magnificent they may be, however splendid in their appointments, however impressive in their circumstances, be sure that none can convey to you a welcome more truly from the heart, than this first one as you place your feet upon American soil, extended to you by the citizens of Portsmouth. [Applause.]

REV. MR. M'GINLEY.

Rev. Mr. MCGINLEY then said:

Having been called to the chair during our city's greeting to our distinguished guests, my task is done. I have now the honor of introducing, as permanent chairman of the evening, one who may fitly preside over an occasion which he did so much to bring about; who seemed to hear the cry of dying men come down from the polar night, and in the face of all obstacles thrown in his path, with haste and thoroughness equipped an expedition for their rescue which, crowned with success, has won for him the applause and gratitude of the nation: Hon. W. E. Chandler, Secretary of the Navy.

SECRETARY CHANDLER.

Secretary CHANDLER was received with so much applause as to render it difficult for him to proceed. With frequent interruptions of applause he spoke as follows :

Mr. CHAIRMAN: In August, 1881, a United States signal station for Arctic observation and exploration was established at Lady Franklin Bay in Grinnell Land by a party carried and left there by the steam-sealer Proteus, composed of Lieut. A. W. Greely, of the Fifth United States Cavalry ; Lieut. Frederick F. Kislingbury, of the Eleventh Infantry ; Lieut. James B. Lockwood, of the Twenty-third Infantry ; Acting Assistant Surgeon Octave Pavy, and twenty-one non-commissioned officers and privates of the command, including two Eskimo.

It was promised by the Government that a vessel should visit the station during the summer of 1882, and that, if she failed to reach it, a relief ship should again be sent in 1883.

The instructions of the Chief Signal Officer, dated June 17, 1881, directed Lieutenant Greely, if not visited in 1882, to "abandon his station not later than September 1, 1883," and to "retreat southward by boat, following closely the east coast of Grinnell Land, until the relieving vessel is met or Littleton Island is reached."

A letter from Lieutenant Greely, written August 17, 1881, and brought by the Proteus from Lady Franklin Bay, specified the depots of supplies which he wished the relief ships to attempt to make, and stated that the relief party of 1883 "should then proceed to establish a winter station at Polaris winter quarters, Life Boat Cove (at Littleton Island), where their main duty would

be to keep their telescopes on Cape Sabine and the land to the northward."

Between July 28 and September 2, 1882, the steamer Neptune, under Mr. William M. Beebe, jr., of the Signal Service, proceeded into Smith's Sound, but the ice failed to sufficiently open into Kennedy channel, and the vessel returned, having left a few provisions at Cape Sabine and Littleton Island.

In 1883 the Proteus was again employed by the Chief Signal Officer for the voyage to Lady Franklin Bay, and placed in charge of Lieut. E. A. Garlington, of the Seventh United States Cavalry, and the steamer Yantic, of the United States Navy, commanded by Commander Frank Wildes, was detailed as a tender to accompany the Proteus as far as Littleton Island.

Lieutenant Garlington was informed, by letter of the Chief Signal Officer of June 4, 1883, of the extreme peril of Lieutenant Greely and his party, was enjoined to spare no effort to push his vessel through to Lady Franklin Bay, and was also instructed as follows:

If it should become clearly apparent that the vessel cannot be pushed through, you will retreat from your advanced position and land your party and stores at or near Life Boat Cove [at Littleton Island], discharge the relief vessel with orders to return to Saint John's, Newfoundland, and prepare for remaining with your party until relieved next year.

Lieutenant Garlington was further instructed, as soon as possible, from this station at Littleton Island, to endeavor to communicate with Lieutenant Greely by sledge parties; the men not so employed to lose no time in preparing a house for the whole party and in securing the stores preparatory to the arrival of Lieutenant Greely.

The Proteus and Yantic were together at Saint John's

on June 27, and an agreement was made between Lieutenant Garlington and Commander Wildes contemplating their separation until August 25, but that the Yantic should go to Littleton Island, which should be the "head-quarters," and should not leave there before that day. The Proteus preceded the Yantic to Disco Island, but the Yantic rejoined her, and they were together there from July 12 to July 15, at which latter date the Proteus once more left her tender, which, after waiting until the 26th, again sailed northward.

Instead of proceeding directly in the track of the Proteus, however, she diverged to Upernavik; was detained there by fogs from July 27 to 31, when she sailed, and was easily able to reach Littleton Island August 3. She there found, from records left, that the Proteus, on July 23, had been crushed in the ice and had sunk just north of Cape Sabine; that Lieutenant Garlington and his whole party had crossed to Littleton Island, and on July 28 had gone south, along the Greenland coast, in open boats. The Yantic thereupon turned southward, searching the coast to Cape York, and finding no traces of the Proteus people, went on to Upernavik, reaching there August 12. She left this place August 22 and reached Disco Island August 28, where she was overtaken August 31 by Lieut. J. C. Colwell, of the United States Navy, who had left at Cape York the Proteus party, to which he had been attached, and had reached Upernavik in an open boat August 23, and had on the same day, in a similar boat, kept up the pursuit of the Yantic. The Yantic then returned to Upernavik, found that the whole Proteus party had saved themselves and arrived, took them on board, and reached Saint John's on September 12.

With the exception that it left a few rations and some clothing at Cape Sabine, the expedition of 1883 as well as that of 1882 was a failure. No attempt was made by either Lieutenant Garlington or Commander Wildes to establish a relief party at Littleton Island, for which point Lieutenant Greely was under orders to start not later than September 1.

The Army Court of Inquiry, under date of January 15, 1884, reported :

It may here be stated roughly that from July, 1882, to August, 1883, not less than 50,000 rations were taken in the steamers Neptune, Yantic, and Proteus up to or beyond Littleton Island, and of that number only about 1,000 were left in that vicinity, the remainder being returned to the United States or sunk with the Proteus.

The desperate condition in which Lieutenant Greely had thus been left, led to careful and zealous preparation for the relief expedition of 1884. A Board of Army and Navy officers recommended that it should be solely a naval enterprise, and suggested the method of organizing it. Congress was asked to grant to the President unlimited appropriations for fitting it out. The House Committee, of which Hon. Samuel J. Randall was chairman, reported in favor of such appropriations, and Mr. Randall was energetic in urging forward the passage of the bill, and persistent in opposing any restrictions or limitations upon the power of the President; while Senator Hale of the Senate committee took successful charge of the measure in that body and most judiciously and indefatigably conducted it to a passage.

The steam-sealer Thetis was purchased in London by the United States minister, Mr Lowell, aided by Lieut. Commander French E. Chadwick, of the United

States Navy, an attaché of the legation; the Bear was bought at Saint John's by the United States consul, Thomas N. Molloy, esq., who has been unremitting in his labors in behalf of all the expeditions; the Alert was thoughtfully and generously donated by the British Government; and all were fitted and equipped for conflict with the ice and for a three years' stay if necessary, in the Arctic regions. The President took a lively interest in the work of preparation and in the selection of officers for the duty. The Secretary of War gave time and labor and shared the responsibilities of the enterprise. The chiefs of the Bureaus of the Navy Department gave personal attention to all details; and the ships sailed on the appointed days under the command of as efficient and brave naval officers as any country can claim—Commander Winfield Scott Schley, Commander George W. Coffin, and Lieut. William H. Emory.

The details of the rescue are too fresh in all minds to need repetition. The three relief vessels and the coaling steamer Loch Garry boldly entered upon the navigation of Davis Straits, and pushed across Melville Bay. The commanders of the Thetis and the Bear, watching their opportunities with untiring care, coolly and courageously thrust their ships into the ice and reached Littleton Island on the 22d of June, a fortnight earlier than any vessel had attained that point before. Finding there no record of the unfortunate explorers, on the same day they pressed over to Cape Sabine.

Their haste was necessary. Lieutenant Greely and his party had left Lady Franklin Bay on the 9th of August, ten months before, and after pushing on in boats, and drifting on ice-floes, vainly looking for help from the relief party which should have been at Little-

ton Island, "keeping its telescopes on Cape Sabine and the land to the northward," they had fixed their winter quarters at the latter point. The provisions at Cape Sabine and Cape Isabella had lasted them until March, when they hoped to cross to Littleton Island and obtain the two hundred and fifty rations left there by the Neptune. But during all this time the ice of the entrance to Smith's Sound never closed, while the boats were lost or consumed for fuel, and meantime starvation and cold did their deadly work. One by one the feeble sufferers died, until only seven remained, and these had but a few hours to live. But help was now near at hand. On the evening of the 22d of June, when their fate seemed hopeless, the shrill whistle of the Thetis, the signal of rescue, was heard above the winds and waves. A relief party hurried forward and found them. Careful and tender hands bore them gently off. The ships turned their heads homeward, and on the 17th of July the American people, the whole civilized world, rejoiced at the telegraphic announcement that Lieutenant Greely had been found and saved.

To the rescuers and the rescued of this expedition of 1884 the receptions of Friday and of to-day have been most fitly given, and we are here assembled to do them honor.

But our first duty is to pay our tribute of praise and of mourning to those devoted men who, having completed their two years of fruitful labor, came southward to Cape Sabine, and after months of suffering and starvation, borne with heroic fortitude and patience, perished as truly on the field of duty as if they had met their fate at the cannon's mouth.

Lieutenant Lockwood died April 9, Lieutenant Kis-

lingbury June 1, and Doctor Pavy June 6. The remains of George W. Rice, Nicholas Salor, Jacob Bender, Doctor Pavy, and Hampton S. Gardner were buried in the ice-foot and were swept away into the great deep. The Eskimo, Jens Edward, was drowned while sealing, and Frederic Thorley Christiansen was buried at Disco. The bodies of Lockwood and Kislingbury, of Edward Israel, Winfield S. Jewell, David C. Ralston, William H. Cross, David Linn, Charles B. Henry, William Whisler, William A. Ellis, R. R. Schneider, and also of Joseph Elison who died after being rescued, we now have with us, saved for the sacred rites of burial at home.

The people of the United States look back upon their record with a just though mournful pride, and wherever throughout the world the story of their heroic endeavor and suffering is told, the memory of these martyrs to duty will forever be cherished and held in honor.

With special tenderness we turn to Lieutenant Greely and his rescued comrades, Sergeant David L. Brainard, Sergeant Julius Fredericks, Sergeant Francis Long, Steward Henry Biederbeck, and Private Maurice Connell. They are the only survivors of an American Arctic exploration party which reached out further toward the pole than any previous explorers, and whose observations were extended into the Polar Ocean. Their coast and land journeys were extensive, and have mapped out with increased exactness the shore line of Greenland and the interior of Grinnell Land. Their scientific observations—made at fearful cost—have resulted in valuable additions to our knowledge of the lands within the Arctic circle. For their labors

and their endurance we honor them, for their sufferings we give them our pity and sympathy, and to comfort, cheer, and encourage them we promise them the gratitude of their Government and their countrymen, as the sole survivors of a polar expedition which will always illustrate American enterprise and American heroism.

It is with a feeling of peculiar pride and satisfaction that I fulfill the welcome duty of commending and congratulating the officers and men of the relief expedition upon the brilliant success of their efforts. It was early decided that the force should be wholly naval, and the result showed the wisdom of the decision. The arduous responsibility could have fallen into no better hands. Every officer and man, from his first connection with the undertaking, has given it his best and most untiring effort. The preparations were carried out with zeal and promptness, and each ship was ready at the fixed hour of departure. In the perilous advance from Upernavik, with incessant vigilance and unwearied exertion, every lead was followed, every circumstance was utilized that could speed the ships forward on their way; nor could more have been done had the relief officers known what all now know, that every hour of delay was thinning the weakened band of survivors.

To the energetic commanding officer of the expedition, Commander Schley, of the *Thetis*, and to Lieutenant Emory, the efficient commander of the *Bear*, who share the credit of conducting their difficult and dangerous enterprise to a successful close, the Navy Department gives its warmest and most earnest thanks, and their brother officers throughout the service join in heartfelt greeting to those for whom a new chapter must be written in the long and noble record of naval achievement.

Nor must a due share of praise be omitted to Commander Coffin, of the Alert, to whom was intrusted the charge of the reserve, and who performed his duty with fidelity and skill. To each and all of you, officers and men of the expedition, your country extends a cordial welcome upon your safe return. The dangers you encountered and the success you accomplished in bringing succor to your countrymen and comrades of the Army, perishing one by one upon the Arctic shores, have aroused a glow of pride and satisfaction in the breast of every American, and the nation will always dwell with fond remembrance upon those who shared in the danger and the crowning success of the Greely Relief Expedition of 1884. [Applause.]

Secretary Chandler, after the applause had subsided, introduced Governor Hale, in the following words :

Not only the city of Portsmouth, but as well the State of New Hampshire, rejoices to welcome within her borders the returning Arctic heroes. As a citizen of the State it gives me additional pleasure to introduce to you our governor, Samuel W. Hale.

GOVERNOR HALE.

Governor HALE was heartily received, and spoke as follows :

MR. PRESIDENT, HEROES OF THE GREELY EXPEDITION, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: It is my privilege to be here to-night, in response to the invitation of the citizens of Portsmouth, to utter a few words of welcome to the honored survivors of the Greely Expedition. The most eloquent words which can be uttered are inadequate to this occasion, and surely any welcome which I

can extend will but poorly testify the interest of the people of this State and the nation in those who have so bravely accomplished this rescue, and our joy over the return of those who have come back to us from the icy grave of the Arctic regions.

There are moments in the lives of nations, as in those of individuals, when the circumstances are so thrilling and joyous, and yet so serious and sad, that we scarcely know what sentiment is most befitting our emotions. This is such an occasion. For three long years the people of this country have watched, much of the time with the greatest anxiety and apprehension, the fortunes of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition. In the summer of 1881 it was sent out to man one of the stations which the leading governments of the world had agreed to maintain in the Arctic zone for the purpose of scientific observations and research.

In all the history of Arctic explorations there has never been an expedition which went forth with better equipment, higher aims, nobler men, and greater expectations of success. They penetrated far into that icy clime and patiently began their work, and we at home thought of them as almost in another world. When an attempt was made in 1882 to reach them with supplies and failed, all were anxious and some feared the worst. And, when again, last year, the ice conspired with other circumstances and the relief expedition was unfortunate, we knew that our countrymen were slowly starving to death. There has, perhaps, never been known such a wide-spread and sympathetic interest in a small band of men as has been developed in this anxious interval for the members of the Greely party. England sent her princely gift, the steamship *Alert*, to aid in the rescue,

which was so wisely planned and energetically executed by the naval and military bureaus of this country, to the heads of which is due much of the honor of the success in which we rejoice to-night. Remembering these circumstances, and knowing that the universal feeling in the hearts of the people, after so long and anxious awaiting to learn the final issue of the ill-fated expedition, is one of thankful joy, I am deeply moved to look to-night upon the fulfillment of our hopes, and yet, to think of the sufferings through which it has come and the lives it has cost. We have passed through the Arctic night of our waiting and have come into the brightness of the day.

Survivors of the Greely Expedition, I bid you welcome. In behalf of my fellow-citizens of New Hampshire—the State which bears upon its seal the noble ship—I welcome you to her soil and hospitality. The city which in days of yore, as now, has sent forth many a gallant crew for purposes of war and peace extends the warmest congratulations, and our joy is multiplied into the hearts of fifty millions of your countrymen, who welcome you back to your native land. Our welcome is echoed from across the ocean, and rises from the lips of many people like the murmur of that distant Arctic sea as it washes its desert shores and wraps itself sorrowfully around those white tombstones of ice which mark the sleeping-place of the heroic dead. None but you know the trials through which you have passed—the exile in a clime of eternal ice and snow, “away from friends and kindred dear,” the watching and the waiting through the long Arctic night for the help which the Arctic day should bring, the disappointment that it came not, the weary marches and driving snows or voy-

ages over icy seas, the ceaseless search of many a day for food, the hunger at the close, the troubled dreams of the night, when the land of plenty seemed so near, and the dreadful hunger of the morning. None but you know how to be thankful and rejoice to-night. But we, your countrymen, welcome you with greatest joy, and hope that the generous fare and loving care of home may win you back to health and strength.

The ancient Jews sent forth an offering to be sacrificed upon the altar, of which the priest sent back a part, and with it good cheer. So we rejoice over your return as that part which the goodness of Providence has returned to our homes.

But in our rejoicings we are sorrowful. Your comrades, where are they? You watched over them like brethren, but death claimed them as his own. We grieve with you and their friends and loved ones over their loss. They lived long lives, for while they lived they lived well. You know their heroic conduct. They were ever true to themselves and the duty which was before them, and when at last the end came on apace they gently fell asleep. They and their brave comrade who did not live to see this hour have reached in safety the eternal God-haven of the blessed. Their remains may rest at peace in this their native land; they may be far away in the barren regions of the North, borne by the winds and waves in caskets of ice to a cemetery which no human foot shall tread, or sleeping in the land that gave them birth. Wherever they may be, here among the people of America as well as in other lands, their names will be held in lasting honor.

My fellow-citizens, there are others here who deserve,

as they have everywhere received, the most enthusiastic praise for the prudence, perseverance, and pluck with which they have accomplished the work which they undertook. All honor to the brave commander and his men who have wrought this noble rescue. They have overcome obstacles almost insurmountable—flying swiftly with the wind or steaming against the storm, forcing their way, indifferent to winter snows and constantly threatening perils, against barriers of ice, inch by inch, to reach as soon as possible their imprisoned and starving comrades. We welcome them home again and their ships to friendly seas. The service which they have rendered will never be forgotten by this Government or pass unnoticed by the American people. To “the heroes and the martyrs,” the living and the dead, the rescued and the rescuers, to the high officials who have been so energetic in pushing forward the relief expedition, and to every officer and seaman who has contributed to its success, in behalf of my fellow-citizens of this Commonwealth, I extend a hearty welcome. [Applause.]

The CHAIRMAN. There was no partisanship in fitting out the Greely Relief Expedition. The Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives originated the bill, and stood firmly by it as they reported it, against all opposition or attempts to amend it. The chairman of the committee led the forces and never hesitated, delayed, or wavered, and he now comes a long distance to join in the general acclamation—that distinguished citizen of Pennsylvania, Hon. Samuel J. Randall. [Loud applause.]

MR. RANDALL.

Mr. RANDALL spoke as follows:

Mr. PRESIDENT, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN: It has been my good fortune in the House of Representatives to help toward sending out the Greely Relief Expedition, and in their splendid success I take unusual gratification. The relievers and relieved have done their duty faithfully and well, and deserve the warmest recognition for their skill, courage, fortitude, and above all for the exhibition of discipline and endurance under perils almost unparalleled. Those who have perished in the Arctic wilds have died martyrs to duty, and if, as we all believe, knowledge is power, they have enriched their country by adding largely to the sum of human knowledge. So long as civilization shall last the names of these heroes and martyrs of the Greely expedition will be in men's mouths as household words. I am here by my presence to give proof how deeply I sympathize with every movement to honor these brave and long suffering men. [Applause.] Less I could not now say, and more at this time I believe is uncalled for.

The CHAIRMAN. There was some delay in passing the bill through the Senate, and patience and tact were needed to overcome the objection to giving unlimited moneys and to authorizing the President to compel the officers and men of the Navy to go on the search. That success was finally reached by the adoption of the bill as it came from the House, and was in full measure due to the efforts of the eloquent Senator who is now introduced, Hon. Eugene Hale, of Maine. [Applause.]

SENATOR HALE.

Senator HALE said :

This event which we celebrate, and which has set the world to wondering and applauding, has not come to pass without the exercise of some of the highest qualities which mankind possesses.

The project for the expedition which Commander Schley has so successfully led found anything but plain sailing from the outset. It met with opposition at every stage. Since the Proteus had left Lieutenant Greely and his party at Lady Franklin Bay in August, 1881, more than two full years had passed and the third winter had set in without one scrap of intelligence from them.

Two expeditions for their relief had been sent out and each had deplorably failed. Not many men could, perhaps, be found who could say in so many words, that the gallant band which the United States Government had dispatched on so perilous a quest should be abandoned, but with very many men doubts and fears prevailed over hopes and it was gravely questioned whether the prospect of rescuing Lieutenant Greely and his comrades was sufficiently good to justify imperiling more valuable lives in the search. While the bill making the appropriation for the relief expedition was before the Senate, that body amended it so that the Secretary of the Navy had no power to order officers or men on the dangerous service.

I am glad to be able to say that in conference between the two Houses, in which Mr. Randall, who is here, and I participated, this restriction was removed and Congress left to the President and to the Secretary of the Navy

the power, if it should be needed, to order every officer and enlisted man in the Navy to the rescue of the beleaguered party.

It reflects the highest credit on the American Navy that no such orders were needed. Secretary Chandler, whose energy in the enterprise was unflagging and whose vigilance was sleepless, found both officers and men eager to be taken. The volunteering included those who had been performing the most arduous service and those who had filled the easiest posts. To this there was hardly an exception. The spirit of the Navy was high and gave token of what the nation may expect of it should great emergencies ever arise.

Years of uneventful duty; a fleet gradually dwindling; public sentiment until lately apathetic as to the need of a navy—none of these nor all of these had stamped out of the breasts of the officers and men of our Navy that fire which had burned in the hearts of Paul Jones and Decatur and Perry; skill, courage, daring, were all amply found.

The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War, to whose joint charge the enterprise was given, anticipated the action of Congress in securing proper vessels, and night and day the work went on. I watched these things closely, for it had fallen upon me to take charge of and manage the relief bill in the Senate. I do not see where an hour was lost.

And so in the last days of April and in the early ones of May the *Thetis* and the *Bear*, and the *Alert* which had been generously given to us by the British Government, sailed away in search of our countrymen, who for nearly three years had been buried in that profound mystery of the Polar Sea, and from whom no sound had been

heard and no sign had been given. The prayers of the American people went along with the ships.

There is no need here for going further into the story of the expedition. It has brought home its sheaves.

Commander Schley, in his dispatch from Saint John's to the Secretary of the Navy announcing the rescue, tells us how it was done. "From Hare's Island," he says, "to Smith's Sound I had a constant and furious struggle with ice in impassable floes. Solid barriers of ice were overcome by watchfulness and patience alone." Lieutenant Greely, in his pathetic message to General Hazen, in referring to the energy with which the ships were pushed through Melville Bay into the North Water, says "they gained a yard wherever it was possible and always held it." In less than three short months the deed has been done and Commander Schley, Lieutenant Emory, Commander Coffin, and their officers and men and the little fleet they commanded are all back with us.

The nation welcomes them, congratulates them, thanks them.

What shall I say of that other expedition whose enfeebled remnant has been brought back to our shores and to life? The world has read its wonderful story and it will be told to our children and to our children's children to the latest day. Consider what the Greely party endured, what it suffered, what it accomplished. Nothing dims its record. There was no insubordination, no blundering, no losing of the head. It followed instructions. In the long months when health and plenty abounded the time was utilized by observations and explorations which penetrated farther than human foot had ever trodden. Nares and Markham have seen their bounds exceeded.

When the allotted time had been spent and no help had come from the world of life outside, the party abandoned its place and took its toilsome and dangerous way south to Cape Sabine. Think what these few who have come back to us bore during that last terrible winter: Cold, the account of which appalls the imagination; starvation; the death of comrades; the despair which seizes the hearts of men when hope of human succor ceases; and yet the few brave hearts kept up.

Those who laid down their lives will never be forgotten.

Their presence haunts this room to-night,
 Their forms are mingled mist and light
 From that far coast.

We see Lieutenant Lockwood as he proudly sets the starry flag on Lockwood Island in latitude $83^{\circ} 24'$, miles nearer to the pole than man had ever before reached, and we thrill with emotion as we behold his little band resistlessly swept along by that mysterious polar current toward the open sea, to prove whose existence so many brave men have died. We go with Rice and Fredericks on that awful journey to bring the food which had been cached near Cape Isabella, and we come back with the sole survivor to the camp of the famished and the dying. Whatever men could do these few who have come back to us have done, and it is most fitting that to day we should praise them and honor them and commend them to a nation's sympathy and care, and should celebrate as we do the return of the fleet which bore the stout hearts that rescued them. [Applause.]

The CHAIRMAN. It was hoped that Lieutenant Greely and his comrades would be present to-night. But a proper regard for their health requires that they be kept

away. It is the determination that by no imprudence shall the lives of those whom we have rescued be again imperiled, and after the excitement caused them by witnessing the parade of to-day it has been thought best for them to remain to-night quietly at their quarters. But we have here one with whom we are all glad to rejoice. On the quarter-deck of the *Tennessee*, on Friday last, when the Arctic ships entered our harbor, the faithful heart of Mrs. Greely beat with joy at the welcome and beautiful sight, and she is to-night the happiest woman in all Portsmouth. It is a pleasure to present to you her brother, Mr. O. A. Nesmith, of Boston.

MR. O. A. NESMITH.

Mr. NESMITH said :

MR. SECRETARY, REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: It is with peculiar feelings that I rise to address you as the representative of Lieutenant Greely, the other survivors of the Greely Expedition, and their relatives.

With many of us it is indeed a day of rejoicing, and to those who are called upon to mourn we can say that though their loved ones will never more return they died as soldiers should, and that over the head of each may be written the proudest of all epitaphs, the dearest to a soldier's heart: "He died in the line of duty."

And in the very beginning I desire to express to the Secretary of the Navy the heartfelt gratitude all interested—and may I not then include the whole nation?—feel toward him for his personal efforts in behalf of the brave band.

Fitting indeed was it that the reception should have

taken place here in old Portsmouth, where the survivors could receive the thoughtful care they have and at the same time, by a happy coincidence, in the seaport of the State which has the honor of claiming the gallant Secretary of the Navy as her son. As the cobbler or the mechanic has the custom of hanging out some emblem of his handiwork, so has Nature; and, therefore, God placed the profile of a man on the mountains of New Hampshire to show that here He made men. And the work done in fitting out this relief expedition and tender care of those who returned proves that if God ever made a *man* that man is William E. Chandler. And next I would speak of the brave work of Captain Schley and his able assistants, Lieutenant Emory and Commander Coffin, ay, and every man of the whole squadron. Words and time fail me as I endeavor to express all that our feelings would prompt; to say that we and ours will ever hold them in tenderest memory is to say that which you already know and feel.

To the city government, and all the citizens who have so hospitably joined in the welcome, I extend the thanks of the relatives; and now, with your kind permission, I will read a communication from Lieutenant Greely:

NAVY YARD,
Portsmouth, N. H., August 4, 1884.

To Secretary Chandler, Governor Hale, and the City of Portsmouth:

No reason less serious than sheer inability from lack of strength and health could prevent the presence to-night of the living members of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition. I am now unable to fittingly express how deeply we feel the honor done us by your assembling here to greet with kindly words of welcome the living and to give voice to tender sympathy for the dead.

During our service north we tried to do our duty. If in our efforts aught is found of work accomplished or of actions done

which touches the heart of the people, we shall feel that our labors and hardships are more than rewarded. Time and inclination are equally wanting in which to dwell on the work done or hardships endured.

I must, however, state that never for a moment in our darkest or gloomiest hour did we doubt that the American people were planning for our rescue, through their representatives, all that lay in human power and skill. From day to day, as food failed and men died, that faith and that certainty gave strength to us who lived. I need not tell you what you well know, how the Secretary of the Navy set heart and soul on our relief, and, by imbuing his subordinates with his own indomitable energy, started relief vessels in an unprecedentedly brief time. You know *less* of the untiring zeal and determination which animated Commander Schley and the officers of his squadron. No risk was too great, no demands on their strength and energy too great, when it was possible that an hour could be gained or a mile made good. So marked were their dispatch and energy, that had they known our exact condition and locality, and thus avoided the thorough and sweeping search made from Cape York and Cary's Island to Life Boat Cove, they could not have reached Camp Clay in time to have saved another life. None but those of Arctic experience can fully realize the wonderful work done by the squadron, and no one knows better than I how inadequate is this tribute to the Navy for its labors and successes, not less glorious in this work of peace than they have always been in time of war.

We thank you for your kind deeds, thoughtful consideration, and tender sympathy to and for us all—the living and the dead.

Most sincerely and cordially,

A. W. GREELY,

*First Lieutenant Fifth Cavalry, A. S. O., and Assistant
Commanding Lady Franklin Bay Expedition.*

The CHAIRMAN. The Chief Signal Officer of the Army has come to Portsmouth to testify his appreciation of the rescue of the gallant officers and the men of his command. General William B. Hazen will address you.

GENERAL HAZEN.

General HAZEN said :

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN : This is an occasion of no common kind, for the eyes of all civilized society are turned toward us, and we are here to greet heroes.

When I took control of the Signal Service the plan for the Arctic work, which has just been closed, was substantially formulated and had the approval and signature of the President.

Soon afterward Lieutenant Greely brought the subject to my attention, and I gave it my unqualified aid and support, and to this moment there has been nothing neglected which I could do to make it a perfect success.

The money for it had not been appropriated, but Congress soon gave it. Both Mr. Greely and myself devoted to the work of preparation our untiring industry and careful study, which resulted in the most perfectly prepared, equipped, and best supplied expedition that ever set its face toward the pole. It was launched in the best ship for its purpose afloat.

There can be no question but the Newfoundland sealing fleet, which is the development of two hundred years of ice service, is the best ice fleet in the world, and the *Protens*, like the *Bear*, was one of its best ships.

Sailing from Saint John's, July 4, 1881, in the unprecedentedly short period of fifty-nine days she passed up to within seven and a half degrees of the pole, landed her party and stores, saw the house for the party ready for occupation, and returned safely to Saint John's, and was discharged.

In the year 1882 a supply ship was sent with carefully selected stores, but after passing about forty miles beyond Cape Sabine she met unbroken ice, and watching the ice-field all the season, there being no break, she returned to Saint John's.

In the spring of 1883 another expedition, equally well supplied, was sent in the same ship, the *Proteus*, and with the same captain, Pike, that so successfully carried Lieutenant Greely to his station two years before; but after reaching Cape Sabine she was caught in the ice and sank with nearly all her stores. Up to this point everything pre-arranged by Mr. Greely and myself had been carried out in the minutest particular, so far as was in my power, and his directions, written after arriving at his station, had been scrupulously followed in my office.

This was on July 23, and the crew and relieving party with the consort almost immediately returned to Saint John's, leaving no considerable stores of any sort for the *Arctic colony*.

The splendid and complete rescue of the present year, whose commanders are with us to-night, is too recent and well known to require words from me.

The work done by Mr. Greely's party which has been safely brought home was complete in every particular, just as was pre-arranged before it left Washington, not only surpassing in accuracy that of all others, but has contributed in quality and real value more than the records of all other Arctic expeditions put together.

It has carried its parties farther north than any other party at any time, and has added greatly to our geographical knowledge of Northern Grinnell Land and

Greenland. The great addition to our knowledge of Arctic meteorology may add the missing link by which we can predict changes of the weather for long periods of time with the same accuracy we now predict for short ones, and it has dispelled the superstitions of Arctic life; it has proved that living there is wholesome and comfortable, only requiring proper clothing, good and plentiful food, and a warm house to live in.

This has solved the problem of Arctic exploration of the future, robbed it of its horrors and mysteries, and has shown us safe and certain methods.

But it has not been done without great cost, nor was there ever anything of great value without great cost. Let us hope it has not in this case been too great.

The grand result of this expedition, in short, has been a clear increase to the sum of human knowledge.

And now, to the noble men of the Navy who have so splendidly and perfectly achieved this rescue, to Captains Schley and Coffin and Lieutenant Emory and their brave men, I wish, in the strongest manner that words and feelings can express, and in this most public way, to render them my thanks and the thanks of the portion of the Army I represent. [Applause.]

SECRETARY LINCOLN.

The Chairman then spoke of the interest and zeal manifested by the Secretary of War, Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, concerning the expedition, and read the following dispatch from him :

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington City, August 1, 1884.

I regret that I am not able to accept your invitation to join at Portsmouth in the greeting to Commander Schley and his com-

mand upon their return. I beg you to express to him my appreciation of the energetic and thorough manner in which everything possible was accomplished by his expedition, and to tender him the thanks of this Department for his inestimable services to the survivors of Lieutenant Greely's party.

ROBERT T. LINCOLN,
Secretary of War.

HON. WILLIAM E. CHANDLER,
Secretary of the Navy, Portsmouth, N. H.

The CHAIRMAN. Allusion has been made to the discussion in Congress upon the question, whether the power should be given to order the officers and men of the Navy to go upon the search expedition, or whether it should go forth only if volunteers offered themselves. Those of us who insisted that the power to command should be given were not influenced by the fear that volunteers would not appear, but we were contending for a principle. After this Government had sent Greely and his comrades into a place of peril, and promised to succor them, and an expedition was being prepared, not for scientific exploration, but to relieve and rescue men in peril, and the President was given unlimited control over all the moneys of the Government, it was felt that he should also be intrusted, so that he could use it if necessary, with all the power of the Government over the naval establishment; and Congress finally conceded the principle. But it was not necessary to exercise the power. The whole Navy was willing to go; and there volunteered to take any one of the ships an officer concerning whom I dare not trust myself to speak as warmly as I feel. You can fittingly receive him; the captain of the whole expedition, Commander Winfield Scott Schley.

COMMANDER SCHLEY.

Commander SCHLEY was received with immense applause, and spoke as follows :

In behalf of the officers and men of the Greely Relief Expedition, which I had the honor to command, I beg to thank the citizens of the State of New Hampshire and of the city of Portsmouth for this demonstration of their appreciation of the manner in which we have performed the sacred duties committed to our charge.

The duty imposed upon me, in their behalf, to reply to the very complimentary allusions of our most excellent chief, and others who have preceded me, is a task really more difficult to accomplish than that which he imposed in sending me forth to "rescue Greely or ascertain his fate."

I desire, therefore, at the outset to state that it was the determination of all the brave fellows who went out with me for this great duty to leave nothing undone to reach the imperiled party at the earliest practicable moment, and it affords me the warmest pleasure to testify publicly to their exact fulfillment of every duty required by the various exigencies of their perilous service, and when I state to you that during the entire period of our absence no occasion of reproof to any one was necessary, I think it expresses a volume. It explains our success in that it indicates the noble, whole-souled purpose of officers and men who went out with me.

Your distinguished fellow-citizen, Hon. W. E. Chandler, our present able and brilliant Secretary of the Navy, has graphically narrated the history of all expeditions sent to Greely's relief and their results. I cannot, if I

would, attempt to supplement what he has said of this last in which he has been so conspicuously prominent in organizing and fitting for its work.

I feel that I should outrage the sentiment and wishes of my officers and men if I failed to state here in his native State, and thus to his fellow-countrymen, how much of our success was due to his great energy, his unflagging interest, his untiring industry, his indefatigable spirit, and able counsel, which assisted us so much when working far away from his guidance. After the munificent appropriation of Congress the credit and honor of Greely's rescue is due to him, and we shall always feel hereafter that what we were able to accomplish was but the natural sequence of that energy, that devotion, and that comprehensive appreciation which set in motion the expeditionary force of 1884. I have then to thank him in behalf of the officers and men of this expedition for the lasting honor he has conferred upon them in connecting their names and their efforts with his in fulfillment of a work that reflects such infinite luster upon his name.

I do not overstate when I say in behalf of the Navy, in which I have served over a quarter of a century, that the spirit of the gallant fellows who went outward with me to the frozen Arctic seas was but the prototype of that which has been commended by every commander from Tripoli downward to the ice fastnesses of Cape Sabine. I am confident we may be trusted in all emergencies to fulfill the expectation of our beloved people. [Applause.]

The CHAIRMAN. I now introduce to you the energetic, courageous, and accomplished commander of the Bear, Lieut. William H. Emory.

LIEUTENANT EMORY.

After renewed applause, Lieutenant EMORY said:

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN: I thank you for your kind expressions, which are deeply appreciated.

The regulations of the naval service forbid juniors from expressing approbation or disapprobation of their superiors, but as this is the only opportunity that may present itself I feel sure that the honorable Secretary of the Navy will permit me to express, in behalf of the officers and men of the relief ships, our admiration and devotion for the commander-in-chief of the expedition, and to assure him that we are now, and shall always be, ready to follow him north or to a much warmer place. [Laughter and applause.]

The CHAIRMAN. The reserve is always important in every army. The expedition was organized on the plan, first, that if the Thetis should be crushed in the ice the Bear would save her crew and go on with the mission; and second, that if the Thetis and Bear should both be lost, the Alert would be able to save all lives, and also go on and find and bring back Greely and party. Therefore the Alert was placed in command of an officer in every way qualified for any emergency, and who did his duty most efficiently; but for fear this assembly should come to the conclusion that a few of us have organized here to-night a mutual admiration society, I introduce him to you only on the condition that he will not say a word about the Secretary of the Navy.

COMMANDER COFFIN.

Commander GEORGE W. COFFIN said:

You have heard the command of the Secretary of the

Navy. Absolute obedience to a superior officer is the law of the service. Since I am commanded not to speak of him, I will obey, and *simply concur in the remarks which have been already made.*

Commander Coffin took his seat amid cheers and laughter.

The CHAIRMAN. An ex-Secretary of the Navy, who himself organized and sent out a polar expedition of celebrity, has come here to-night to do honor to the Naval Expedition of 1884. I introduce Hon. George M. Robeson.

EX-SECRETARY ROBESON.

Ex-Secretary ROBESON said :

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, CITIZENS OF PORTSMOUTH, AND OF THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE: Having no longer official connection with the naval service, holding no public office, not born in your State, nor resident within its boundaries, I can speak to you to-night neither from an official nor a personal or local standpoint, but can only consider the occasion and its surroundings from those points of view which are common to all citizens and which must strike the minds of all men.

The occasion which we are here to celebrate, and the events which produced it, are illustrative of *two* general ideas, one of which exhibits a characteristic of our race, and the other a principle inherent in our Government.

It is a marked characteristic of the family of nations from which we especially derive our origin to be ever seeking to overstep the boundaries, penetrate the gloom, and overcome the unknown dangers which guard the grim frontiers of human knowledge. This tendency is manifested in every field of human progress, mental,

moral, and material; in government, in religion, in science, in geography, in every department of personal, social, or governmental development. It is the principle which makes of us explorers, pioneers, colonists, conquerors, possessors, civilizers, developers. It is the bright star of destiny which has illumined our progress since the nation was born. It lightened the councils of the founders of our Government. It shone on the pathway of our pioneers. It guides the weary footsteps of the emigrant. It illumines the minds of our statesmen, scholars, philosophers, inventors, and workers until we have seen the forest leveled and the earth subdued across a continent to the shores of farther ocean, and our young Republic, with but a century of life, has assumed before the world a proud position of leadership in political, moral, and material progress.

The original expedition, the survivors of which have just been rescued, found its origin in this principle, inspiring alike its projectors, its leaders, its soldiers, its victims, and its survivors. The details of its history are yet unknown. Our present information is only the general common knowledge of the country. We know that it was organized and sent forth; that it was successfully started in that unknown region from which its worn and broken survivors have just been recovered. We know that two expeditions for its rescue had failed, and that the last was successful only through the knowledge and the skill, the training and the discipline, the courage and the constancy of the brave men who are with us here to-night. Of its achievements we know little. Of its difficulties, its dangers, its trials, its sufferings, its disasters, we see the results, but are as yet uninformed of their details. We know that the suffer-

ing and the sacrifices have been great, but we know not how much has been added to the sum of human knowledge and contributed to the progress of the human race by these sufferings and sacrifices. At this moment we can only remember that the enterprise had its suggestion and expedition its origin in the same great principle which has given development to our country, strength to our Government, progress and prosperity to our people. Whatever may be or may be supposed to be the scientific results of this venture; however great or however small they may seem to us, we must not forget the fact that many of the great conclusions of science which have contributed to the welfare and happiness of mankind have been founded upon facts and knowledge gathered during the lapse of many years by the labors and sacrifices of individual men, without apparent relation to each other, and often without knowledge of their value, by those who discovered them. In the great economy of the world it seems that the seed sown by courage and suffering is never wholly lost.

But with the relief expedition sent forth by the American Navy, whose members are with us here, we are thoroughly familiar. We are fully informed of its origin, its organization, its preparation, its departure, its labors, its achievements, its success. It had its inspiration in that other principle to which I have alluded; which should be recognized by all powers and understood by all people as inherent in the spirit of our Government, that wherever an American citizen has a right to be, in the accomplishment of what he has a right to do, he has the whole force of the Government and all the strength of the people behind him; that wherever led in the pursuit of knowledge, allured by trade, in-

spired by religion, or impelled by duty he may find himself, there he has a right to look with confidence to the free Government of which he is a member for protection if he is oppressed, for relief if he is suffering, for rescue if he is in danger. [Applause.] Born of this principle and authorized in this spirit, the relief expedition was organized by the Secretary of the Navy, who undertook and accomplished his responsible duty in the spirit and with the knowledge which the exigency demanded. As I am no longer connected with the service, neither officer, man, nor civilian employé, I shall not hold myself subject to the Secretary's injunction of silence in regard to himself, but shall declare (what all men see and what every actor in this expedition felt) that it was his wise and thoughtful, brave and energetic spirit behind it which influenced every action, encouraged every exertion, and inspired every man, from commandant to cabin-boy, until the whole expedition was infused and harmonized with intelligent, energetic, and effective life. How much we really owe to this inspiring and directing agency only the interested know, only the thoughtful will ever realize.

The expedition itself was made up of the flower of the American Navy. Every man was detailed for readiness, courage, strength, and efficiency; every officer selected because of those higher qualities of nature and training which make up the physical, mental, and moral organization of an efficient naval commander. Richly endowed by nature with every mental quality, carefully instructed in the whole field of naval knowledge, thoroughly informed of every condition which would bring failure or achieve success, combining every element of resistance to unseen difficulties and unknown dangers, able and

ready at once to command and to obey, impelled by the consciousness of high duty and inspired by the enthusiasm which attends it, directed by knowledge, restrained by discipline, and sustained by courage, they were able to push right on without hesitation or uncertainty, without check or pause, snatching every advantage which boldness could dare or energy accomplish, and maintaining every achievement with steady and unwavering courage, until surmounting every obstacle and overcoming every danger they have conquered the success which brings us here to-night, which crowns them with the honors and burdens them with the thanks of the people. They have taught to the Government and to the nation, and I trust that they have realized to the service and to themselves, the real value of a single hour in every great emergency. Here every moment was freighted with human life. Delay was failure, and disaster death. But they inspired every moment with energy, and filled every hour with action, until they have conquered opposing elements with a success as marked as any in the records of history. They have done more than this. They have illustrated to their associates, to their country, and to the world that the highest qualities of the naval service are not always exhibited and its highest triumphs achieved amid the turmoils and excitement of desperate battle; that not alone upon some slippery deck, where life is victory and death is honor, are heroism and courage exhibited, but that these assume their loftiest mood and exhibit the highest qualities amid the darkness and the dread of that dim unknown, where the unorganized elements of material nature oppose themselves ever to the imperial spirit of man, where human courage is always

confronted with unmeasured danger, and duty is ever face to face with death.

I must be pardoned if I have spoken upon this subject with more than wonted feeling. This is the service with which I was for many years associated. These are the officers whom I knew and appreciated; these are the boys whom I loved. All honor, then, to the American Navy. Here they have exhibited the highest qualities of American manhood; they have shown their readiness to discharge their highest duties as citizens and public servants, and that they are competent to discharge them in the best and most efficient manner. To-night we lay the tribute of a free people at their feet. They will be crowned with laurels, if not with coronets; their names will be written on the records of their country's glory, if not upon the rolls of ancient knighthood. And theirs is a higher patent of a truer nobility, of older date and higher sanction—to alleviate the sufferings, to soften the hardships, to decrease the dangers, and increase the happiness of mankind. This is a criterion of *good*, and to do good is *noble*. No circumstance can impeach, no power disarm it, no time can dim the luster of its glory. Let not personal feeling seek to depreciate its value, nor party spirit attempt to confine its power. Its realm cannot be held within conventional boundaries; it is the broad domain of human feeling; its throne is erected within that great metropolis, the human heart. [Continued applause.]

The chairman at this point stepped to the edge of the platform in front of the men of the Relief Expedition, and said:

SEAMEN OF THE RELIEF EXPEDITION: You are deserving of all commendation. Your commanding of-

ficers have informed me that you have each and all done your duty with faithfulness and without insubordination. What do you suppose your commanders would have done without you? Again, publicly, I thank you for your good and successful work. Now would you like to have General Butler close this meeting? [Cries from the men of "Yes, yes," and cheers, during which General Butler took the stand.]

GENERAL BUTLER.

General BUTLER spoke as follows:

I feel first of all that I owe you an apology for being here, and I have but one or two words to offer. I have never had any official connection with the Navy Department, past, present, nor shall I have, for aught I know, to come. [Laughter and applause.] But I did have, twenty-odd years ago, a good deal of connection with the sailors of the Navy when we were together in the Southern waters. I have another excuse. I have a right to be here. [Applause.] I was born in this county [great applause], among the hills and the mountains, where the bare rocks used to meet the morning sun. From the top of these hills I could look into the bay into which your harbor opens. In all the wanderings of a life more or less adventurous and very much varied, like the Swiss boy when away from his native mountains my heart has always gone back to the hills, the men, and the women of New Hampshire as to my own hearthstone. [Applause.] I yield to no man in the measure of welcome I would give to the rescued and the rescuers.

But what is the use of an expedition to the North Pole? The old northwest passage theory is exploded,

but there is a good to be gained, and it comes from this: The subjects of monarchy had planted the Red Cross of Saint George farther up towards the Pole than any other nation, and the young people, the free American citizens of the nation, determined to plant the Stars and Stripes farther on still, until that glorious banner, as it waves in the Arctic seas, will be mistaken by the wandering *Esquimaux* for the *aurora borealis*. [Great applause.] To have achieved that, fellow-citizens, was triumph enough to have sacrificed many lives. America is first in prosperity, in military power, in civilization, and now in wealth and population. An admiring world looks on, to which it must be shown that she is first in daring, in endurance, and in courage. And God in His goodness has given us the opportunity to show ourselves first in charity, in benevolence and care of our citizens at any cost.

But there is one who has contributed to this expedition who has been overlooked. With our vision nearer home we forget. I know I of all men on earth shall never be accused of any special love for England, for my grandfather and father from New Hampshire fought the red-coats. [Applause.] Yet I say now, all thanks, all honor, all commendation from the men and women of America to Her Majesty the Empress of India and Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, for her thought for Lieutenant Greely and his companions in their extremity.

There is another reason why we should seek to make ourselves famous in Arctic discovery. I do not hope that any expedition will be sent to the Antarctic Ocean, but I have interest in the Arctic sea clear up to the North Pole, and let me say here, now, that in my judgment it

is very easy with sufficient men and sufficient money—and we have got both—to reach the North Pole without losing any lives. We have been told by the Chief Signal Officer that it has been demonstrated that men can live healthfully at the North Pole or near it in the severest cold, provided they have sufficient clothing and wholesome food.

The great Arctic explorer, Dr. Kane, went through all his terrible experience with only one lung, and they brought him home and sent him to Cuba, where he could have a milder climate and get well, and he died in three months. Lieutenant Greely got within about 400 miles of the Pole. Suppose his expedition had been organized with sufficient men to make a depot every 10 miles and keep the roads open between them. If they only got along at the rate of 10 miles a week, in 40 weeks they would have got there. The difficulty is we organize our expeditions only to be gone a certain length of time, instead of organizing them to go there and stay. If we do not see this end accomplished, our children or our children's children will see the North Pole belonging to us [tremendous applause], not by right of discovery alone, but because we shall own all the intervening territory between Portsmouth and there. It is the manifest destiny of this country. We, the English-speaking race—no, we speak better than that—the American-speaking race, with a country filled with a population made up by the mingling of all the best races of men on earth, the very outcome of civilization—the time will come, in our children's generation, if not in ours, when our northern boundary shall be at the North Pole, and our southern boundary so short that we can fence it in three weeks. [Laughter and applause.]

Now, then, a word about the Navy. I never troubled myself much about the Navy. I have seen the ships. They will decay whether they are wood or iron. I am not anxious that many should be built, because there are continual changes in naval architecture, which might make the ship of to-day totally obsolete as a ship of war in three years, though we should have quite a number of cruisers. We need the Navy, too, for the present to keep the boys in training a little and maintain the old spirit; to keep a body of men who will be ready, as were Schley and his comrades, whenever called upon to brave a lingering death of starvation and freezing in the line of duty. [Applause.]

Now, my friends, as I am told I am to close this meeting, perhaps I may as well close it with a benediction. Let each and all of you in the coming day teach your children first to read all the history of the deeds of the American Navy in the olden and the present time, to teach them daring, courage, discipline, and perseverance in well-doing. Let them read there the history of their country, to teach them, first, its power, and lastly, the principles of its Government, that the people rule here as they ought to rule here, and that the rule of the people accomplishes the highest results of any Government on earth. [Great applause.]

At the conclusion of General Butler's speech the exercises were closed by a benediction spoken by Rev. JOHN A. GOSS.

Early on the following morning the remains of Sergt. Winfield S. Jewell, of Lisbon, N. H., which were aboard the Bear when the relief steamers arrived in port, were taken out and brought to the city for transmission on

the first train over the Concord Railroad to his late home, services having been held at the navy-yard at 6.30 a. m. by Rev. Dr. T. R. Lambert. Secretary Chandler tendered the delegation who came to arrange for the removal of the remains every assistance in his power, and put them in communication with Lieut. Greely and the other survivors, from whom they learned many details of his Arctic experience and last hours, and recovery of the remains. The body was escorted by a company of marines and eight seamen as pall-bearers. Secretary Chandler was among the individuals who followed the remains to the depot, where they were given in charge of relatives and friends who were there to receive them.

On the same morning the Arctic fleet, bound for New York, sailed out of the harbor. The North Atlantic squadron soon followed. Strangers departed and decorations were removed; farmers returned to their fields, tradesmen to their shops, the crowd to its daily work and cares, and the city to its accustomed quiet, all made richer by the force of those influences which commerce cannot bring from over the seas, or industry and science wring from the land; something the whistling plow-boy feels as he drives his team, the sailor and the soldier at their posts of duty and danger, the pioneer encountering the wilderness, and youth entering the world's strife—an heroic impulse, which, entering a nation's mind, lifts its whole life to a loftier plane and breeds the spirit of which heroes are born. The pageant is past, but the American, upon whatsoever duty sent, by whatsoever dangers surrounded, through the power of one fine example of ministerial fidelity will feel an increased confidence in his country's protection and a more devoted loyalty to her honor.

RECEPTION OF THE BODIES AT NEW YORK.

The ships of the Relief Expedition arrived in New York Harbor on the morning of August 8, and were saluted with twenty-one guns from Castle Williams. The batteries of the Fourth and Fifth United States Artillery, commanded by Maj. R. H. Jackson, were drawn up on the wharf at Governor's Island. The bodies were immediately transferred from the ships to the steam-tug Catalpa, and at twenty minutes before 1 o'clock the Catalpa steamed up to the dock. Commander Schley came on shore, and formally delivered the bodies to the authorities of the War Department, in the presence of Hon. R. T. Lincoln, Secretary of War; Lieut. Gen. P. H. Sheridan, Maj. Gen. W. S. Hancock, commanding the Division of the Atlantic, and other distinguished officers. The bodies were received with appropriate ceremonies, placed on artillery caissons, and taken to the hospital, after which all with the exception of two were forwarded to the destinations indicated for them by friends and relatives. On the 9th of August the remaining two bodies, those of Privates Roderick R. Schneider, Battery A, First United States Artillery, and Charles B. Henry, Troop E, Fifth Cavalry, were conveyed to Cypress Hills National Cemetery, the former being placed in the receiving vault and the latter interred. The body of Private Schneider was, three days later, August 12, delivered on board the North German Lloyd steamship Ems for transportation to his friends at Chemnitz, Saxony, in accordance with a request to that effect.