FAST IN ARCTIC ICE

DR. KANE'S ADVENTURES IN SEARCH OF FRANKLIN.

A Hurricane Breaked His Vessel in an Inclosed Bay—Daring Sledge Trips to the Farthest North—The Eskimos and Their Dogs.

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IN JOHN FRANKLIN'S romantic and tragic life is the history of daring enterprises, and Dr. Kane's expedition for Franklin's relief has never been surpassed in the annals of human adventure, thoroughness of search, and in the duration and severity of exposure and hardship. Kane proved his mettle further north than any sailor before or since, and in fact went as far and shall as long that an expedition was best able under nature for his relief.

When Kane set out in May, 1850, the only positive knowledge of the lost expedition in north waters was that in July, 1845, a whaler had spoken the vessels in the vicinity of Baffin's bay, moored to an iceberg and awaiting an opening into Lancaster sound, to take the Queen of Portugal to Greenland whose a northward passage. Kane had believed Franklin's supposed route westward from Lancaster sound was the Arctic expedition in 1850-1, and believed that the lost party had penetrated to an open polar sea and perished, or, having found shelter, had continued in the absence of sea and land, was still intact. He decided to make for that polar sea.

The expedition was fitted out—an echoes of the Franklin search series had been—by private funds. Their vessel was the Advance, a brig of 144 tons that had been on the Dr. Haven trip, and was as staunch and easily managed. The commander, Kane, and ten of his comrades were detached from the United States navy. Dr. I. I. Hayes went as surgeon of the expedition. The party numbered eighteen and all were volunteers, by both navigation, rejecting the counsel of former voyagers and trying methods and channels for himself. Kane reached Smith sound in August. He was in latitude 78 of the northeastern shore of Greenland. After a series of most wonderful adventures and escapes in trying to bore through the fields and mountains of ice, the daring men at last found their vessel dry docked by the action of the ice in latitude 78 degs. 37 mins., longitude 70 degs. 40 mins. From this position the brig never moved, and the explorers made in their home for two years from pressing their searches on foot and in sledges, going as far north as latitude 81 degs. 17 mins.

Before being driven into their inhospitable dock the daring voyagers had a marvelous escape from wreck in a terrible hurricane that swept down in the middle of the night. Large mountains high, and the vessel in the midst in danger of being crushed between colliding monsters or by them dashed upon the precipitous coasts. The storm struck them on Aug. 26, while the Advance was picking her way through the sound, close to the Greenland shore, where she had separated from the Release and other vessels. The best hawsers snapped like twine when an attempt was made to make fast to a small island for shelter from the gale. It was blowing in shops and the sources came, but was fair cutting wind, while the vessel bumped and scraped along a tube of ice. The sailors could not find, though their resource was the lead, which enabled the skillful mariners to shift course and dodge the perilous icebergs hurling down upon their pallid brig.

At last a group of bergs that had an quasi powerful momentum of their own swept aside, bearing down on the helpless Advance was gliding helplessly and threatening to crush her at a blow. Fortunately the brig was sailing in a narrow channel, and the bergs, in their rush, swept through the drift, some alongside the vessel, and by a skillful maneuver an anchor was made fast to it. With this sudden shock the vessel was jerked out of a tow force and at begins the Advance flashed through the fast closing channel, actually swinging the bow round, but it was when they were within forty feet of the jagged ledge upon which they were cast. Only with a wheelbarrow would have ground the ship's sides as she slipped by and was. After this miraculous deliverance from an awful death the voyagers turned their two and a half months' stay in the inclosed harbor, a huge bay, and the driving gale by great was the force of the storm that the long vessel until its pinnacle was above the water's edge. Finally the place for was reached and then sipping began. The shoreward face of the bay was low, even sloping, and the vessel's edge, and up this inclined plane the Advance was slowly and steadily hauled to a dry dock, being moved up by means of the rollers which the same motion carried up after it.

The gale passed, leaving the vessel helpless in the ice. Kane had no time, however, in the prosecution of his purpose, and on the 20th of August, with seven companions, he left the brig in a whaleboat and pushed northward through fields of floe.

KANE'S RAINBOW ROUTE.

The trials and sufferings of the party were are confined to those endured from the dismal climate. The mere distance, the savage Esquimaux and the bears had not only annoyed them, but filled them with terror at times. The bears proved to be practically the lives of the entire depot upon which the lives of the explorers depended, but were also dangerous enemies. On one of the sledge journeys with Morton and Hickox, the night for a bear that had entered the tent and was making herself among the sleepers. A rifle was within reach, but Morton made a venture to the rear by cutting a hole in the tent, secured a rifle from a chest outside and by the glare of a torch the carnivorous beast was brought down with a bullet.

The Esquimaux were inscrutable friends and seemed the right to make themselves of anything in their way. This trait was tolerated in order to avoid hostilities. They also exercised the savage in constitutional displays of prowess and endurance, and on one occasion Dr. Kane, with the savage leaders, to be gets and his men were.

Another danger was the rotten ice, so now and then a party would plunge through and be detained until the sledge from friends. In this way Kane nearly lost his life while and hunting for food with only an Esquimaux. The ice was rotten, the water frozen dogs and the sledge sailed the man a strength of new be and tribes to the shore of the island. Kane [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] at the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]