THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH.

PITTSBURG. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18,

BRAVING

Dr. Nansen Details His Plan for Drifting Across the Polar Regions.

THE LONG WINTER NIGHT

To Be Lightened by Electric Lamps Fed by a Wind Engine.

PROVISION AGAINST ACCIDENT.

Pathetic and Tragic story of Suffering on Jan Mayen Island.

A JOURNAL UNDER THE HAND OF DEATH

[WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.]

Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, who proposes to be drifted across the North Polar regions, lately read a paper detailing his plans before the Royal Geographical Society of London, From Pall Mall Budg t's report I glesn the interesting passages following. The illustration tells how he proposes to drift better than

will start in the spring. There were two methods of trying to obtain the result he longed for, said Dr. Nansen. First, build a strong ship so constructed that it could withstand the pressure of the ice, and, living in this ship, to float across with the ice; or, second, to take only boats along, encamp on an icefloe, and live there while floating across. His plan was based on the use of both these methods. He had now built a wooden ship

words can. He



of Jan Mayer

just big enough to carry provisions for 12 men for five or six years, besides the necessary fuel; her size was about 600 tons displacement with light cargo. She had an engine of 160 indicated horse-power, which would give her a speed of six knots, with a consumption of 2% tons of coal in 24 hours. She would consequently be no fast vessel nor a good sailer; but this was of relatively little importance on such an expedition, where they would have to depend principally on the speed of the current and the ice movement, and not that of the ship. Would Be Raised on the Ice.

In further description of his vessel, he explained that it was so built that it was of a plump and rounded form, so as to leave no place for the ice to catch hold of, and, owing to her sloping sides, she would, in place of being crushed, be raised by the ice until she rested upon her keel on its sur-face. The vessel was launched at Laurvik on the 26th of Optober, and was named Fram, which meant "forward." Fram would certainly be the strongest vessel ever used in the Arctic regions. She would be crushed only in a quite extraordinary com-bination of circumstances. With this vessel and a crew of 12 strong and well-picked men, besides an equipment for five or six years as good in all respects as mod-ern appliances could afford, he thought the

enterprise had a good prospect of success.

He expected to reach the farthest possible point north in open water in August or September. When they could get no farther they would have nothing leit but to run into the ice at the most favorable spot, and from there trust entirely to the current running across the Polar region. The ice would, perhaps, soon begin to press, but it would only lift their strong ship. Probably they would, in this way, in the course of some years, be carried across the Pole



or near it and into the sea between Spitz bergen and Greenland, where they would get into open water again, and be able to return home. There was, however, a possi-bility that the ship, in spite of all precau-tions, might be crushed in the ice, but if this happened the expedition would have another resource. It would then be time to use the ice as quarters instead of the ship, and they would have to move all provisions, coal, boats, etc., to an icefice

and camp there.

Two Warm Saloons on the Ice. For this purpose he had built two big boats, 29 leet long, 9 feet broad, with flat bottoms, and so deep that they could sit and lie comfortably tuside them. They had a deck, and were so big that the whole crew could live even in one of them. These boats would be placed side by side on the ice, would be covered with thick warm ice, would be covered with thick warm tents and snow, and would give two good warm saloons. Thus they could continue their journey. When they emerged into open water on this side of the Pole there would not be any great difficulty in returning nome in their boats; such a thing had been done before. Whether they succeeded or not, he felt that this was the way in which the unknown regions would some which the unknown regions would some

day be crossed.

It might be possible that the current would not carry them exactly across the Male, but it could not easily be very far off, and the principal thing was to explore the unknown polar regions, not to reach that mathematical point in which the axis of our globe had its northern termination. It sould not be considered improbable that

ever, expect that the course would be one straight line forward during all this time; but when they took provisions for five or six years they had an ample margin. This

Dealing with equipment, Dr. Nansen said they would take dogs, sledges, "ski" and snowshoes, besides means for sledge traveling, while their scientific equipment would be chosen with the greatest care. To live a healthy life in all respects was naturally very important. Two of the principal conditions to keep one's health were heat In order to produce the necessary heat they would live together in a small room during the coldest season, and they would have good warm clothes. The difficulty as to light, where the darkness lasted six months, he believed they would be able to overcome by the help of the powerful electric light. They would have a dynamo for producing electricity worked by the wings of a windmill.

But even when there was no wind at all they would be able to produce power. The expedition would number 12 men, strong and well picked, and when a walkmill was arranged on deck they would be able to do work similar to that which a horse did in its horsemill on land. In this walkmill four men would take their curn at a time, thus they would obtain good and regular exercise—somewhat monotonous perhaps-and would at the same time be useful by producing electricity, so that they could have an electric arc lamp burning eight to ten hours a day. Everybody would understand what a blessing that must be when one was surrounded by a constant darkness.

Tragic Story of Jan Mayen. The French expedition sent out last sum mer on the little steamer Manche to collect specimens of natural history in Jan Mayen and Spitzbergen has recalled a story not told in well-known books of Arctic travel, but now found in the record kept by the victims of the tragedy and preserved at Tae Hague. It has been translated into French by the latest visitors to the island, but, as far as the writer knows, it has never been

published in English.

The blenk and barren island, 35 miles long, is about 390 miles north of the Arctic Circle, and nearly midway between Ice and and Spitzbergen. It was lifted above the sea in a past age by some tremendous volcanic eruption. It is very mountainous, and Mount Beeren, its highest summit, rises 8,000 feet above the sea. Always covered with ice and snow, there are no shrubs or other vegetation, or any living thing to gladden the eye except in a few sheltered valleys; and it was in these valleys that the Manche, in July last, made her slender barvest of Jan Mayen collections.

A House Untouched for Ten Years.

six years they had an ample margin. This months in 1882-83. The storms of a decade might, perhaps, seem to many to be a long had bleached and worn the exterior, but time, but there was a great advantage in this route—that when the expedition was once well begun there would not be much once well begun there would not be much this route—that when the expedition was
this route—that when the expedition was
once well begun there would not be much
help in looking backwards; their hope
would then lie on the other side of the Pole,
and such a knowledge was a good help to
get fram, or forward.

The little package he had
wrapped in a handkorchief. A
shirt was hanging on a line where,
ten years before, it had been placed to dry.

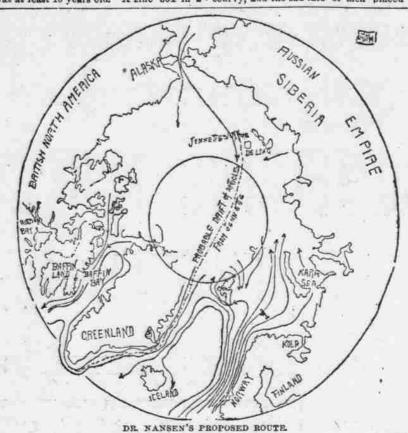
Marinum and minimum thermometers Maximum and minimum thermometers

In an excavation under the house, which

they should reach open waters on this side of the Pole within two years after the start from the Siberian side. He could not, however, expect that the course would be one straight line forward during all this time; but when they took provisions for five or but when they took provisions for five or mouths in 1829 22. The strange of dands dam, which had large whaling interests in the Northern seas, determined to send a small party to Jan Mayen to pass the win-ter. Yery little was known then of the long Arctic night, and the company de-sired to ascertain if it were teasible to win-ter whaling parties on Jan Mayen, where, in the spring, they would be in the neigh-borhood of their season's work. The com-nany selected seven sallors who were to repany selected seven sailors who were to remain on the desolated siand a year. Only one of the sailors could read and write and

the record was to be kept by him.

On August 26, 1633, the seven sailors were landed on the island. The company had provided them with everything that was thought necessary for their comfort and well being. They had provisions in abundance, but unfortunately, the com-missary supplies consisted largely of salt meat. This shows how little was known at that time of the food required in Arctio has served as a bathroom and a dark cham-ber for the photographer, were some bottles of wine, and the visitors drank it, well as-aured that this particular fruit of the vine was at least 10 years old. A zine box in a



able articles may be preserved for years in high Northern latitudes.

Project of a Whaling Company, It was in the neighborhood of this Aus-Nearly ten years had elapsed since a on the island in the seventeenth century, human being had landed on the little island. In 1633 the Greenland Company of Amster-

corner contained some well-preserved bis- | Jan Mayen to-day with a similar supply of cuit. On the walls hung photographs of a winter food could be predicted with dozen officers and sailors, and pictures and caricatures from illustrated journals. All these objects showed how well even perish-

selves against Spanish pirates." Faithful Record of the Weather.

At this time there were neither barome-It was in the neighborhood of this Austrian station that seven Dutchmen perished called this expedition a meteorological mission. All the men could do was to record the state of the weather, the force and direc-

tion of the wind and the condition of the sea. Theirjournal does not mention auroral phenomena. They, however, most faithfully carried out all the observations they were told to make. Quite a large number of white bears visited them during the winter, and as the Austrian expedition of ten years ago saw only two or three, these animals seem to have largely diminished in that region within the past two centuries

During the fall the party were able to collect a few herbs to eat as a salad, and it was not until late in the winter that they began to suffer terribly from scurvy. On March 15 a bear was killed and the record says that as they had long eaten nothing but salt meat, this provision of fresh food greatly rejoiced them. At this time all were victims of scurvy. A week later they wrote that the lack of fresh provisions had caused them at last to lose courage. They were so feeble that their legs could hardly support them. The record-of their sufferings from day to day invariably closes with a report of the weather observations they had been instructed to make.

The Keeper of the Record Dies. April was the fatal month. On April 3. only two of the seven sailors were able to get out of doors. The two last towls were killed and given to the men who were suffering most, in the hope to restore a little of their strength. This nourishment did them much good, and the party longed for a few dozen more fowls. The dog was kept as a last resource. On April 16 the writer of the record died. The next entry reads:

May the Lord have mercy on his soul and upon us, for we are all very sick. The wind is blowing fresh from the East. The only man in the party who, when it landed on the island, knew how to write, was the first to die, and the work of keeping the record then devolved upon another who had learned to write during the winter. Thereafter the record was very badly written and spelled. On April 19 the sailor wrote:

we have not a particle of fresh provisions, and our condition grows worse from day to day. We see no hope of recovery now, for we lack the things we most need to check the scurvy and to ward off the effects of the terrible cold. If we were in good health we could exercise and keep our selves warm, but now this is impossible. We are all so sick that we can scarcely stand, and there is little hope left. We depend on the mercy of God. The wind and the weather are the same as yesterday.

The Second Record Keeper Dies. On April 23 this record appears in the

To day no one is able to help himself excepting me. All the work of assisting others has now fallen upon me. I am doing my duty as well as I can, and I shall do it as only as well as I can, that I shall do I as long as God gives me the strengto to move. At this moment I went to help our Captain, who asked me to lit him from his bed. He seems to be dying, and he thinks that this change will diminish his sufferings. The night has been cloudy, and the wind as it was vesteries. was yesterday.

Here is the record of the last few days: April 27.—The day is damp. To-day we killed our dog to have a little fresh meat. It cannot help us much. The night was cloudy but without wind.

April 29.—In the night the wind changed to the northeast. April 30.—The day is clear and sunshiny, with a strong wind from the northeast. I think I am dying.

stank I am dying.

So ends the record. The last day's entry is scarcely legible.

It was not until June 4 that the first of the whalers reached the island. If they had come a month earlier it is barely possible that they might have saved some of the wretched sailors. In front of one of the bodies was some bread and cheese of which the man had made his last repast; and before the body of the man who had written the last words in the journal was an open prayer book. an open prayer book.

Hudson First Found the Island. It is worth while to correct a blunder which is to be found in many encyclopedias and books. The Dutch sailor, Jan Mayen, whose name was given to the island, was not its discoverer, as nearly every work of reference asserts. In 1607 the great English traveler, Henry Hudson, while exploring in Arctic waters, discovered the bleak island and gave to it the name of Hudson's Touches. It was not until four years after that the Dutchman, Jan Mayen,

in the ship Eak visited the island.

It is another case of Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci. The original discoverer was not honored in the name of the thing discovered. The name of the Dutchman was given to the island, and one of its extinct craters is known as the Esk, from the name of his vessel; and, strangely enough, we have a more satisfactory ac count of Hudson's discovery of the island than of the subsequent visit of Jan Mayen. CYRUS C. ADAMS.

EMPLOYERS HARSHLY JUDGED.

A Clergyman Views Labor Questions From an Unusual Standpoint.

At least one man has arisen who thinks that the grievances involved in the discussion of labor questions are mostly against the employers. Rev. E. H. Hall, of Boston, has a remarkable sermon in the last issue of the Christian Register in which he takes the following ground:

"For one, I must confess that the abuses which have stirred me most profoundly of late have not been the sufferings and privations of the poor, but the false ideas of their rights aroused among them by the mistaken zeal of their friends-not the indifference of society toward the outcast and oppressed, but the encouragement which society has given them to feel that in every struggle in which they are engaged they are always in the right and others always in the wrong. What has made my blood boil oftenest of late has been the insolent assumption on the part of the laborer, prompted by ill-advised friends, that all the social troubles that arise are the fault of the moneyed classes, intent always upon gain, and ready always to grind the poor to the earth. I have noticed that any degree of violence on the laborer's part is condoned or apologized for; while, if the employer uses the slightest force in the defense of his property or his rights, the vials of the whole community's wrath are poured upon bus head. I have noticed that, if the manthe Kansas electors Populists.

agers of important concerns or superintendents of large industries surrender to every demand of labor and pocket every affront, they are loudly applauded; while, if they stand firmly for their simple rights, they are savagely denounced. The only thing which is praised in dealing with social troubles is weakness and cowardice the only thing which is blamed is spirit and courage. The militia, the police, the law, are considered excellent institutions so long as they keep wholly in the background or

agers of important concerns or superintend

as they keep wholly in the background or wink at disturbances of the peace; they are an intolerable despotism the moment they are called in to enforce order and obedience. There are organized bodies of laborers at this very moment claiming for themselves the right to drive all other workmen from their occupation, and declaiming against the State militia and the police as their natural foes, simply because public senti-ment has abetted them in this belief, and made it impossible for them to discriminate between out and out tyranny on the part of government and the necessary maintenance of safety and peace.

"Now, with all possible allowance for the advantages which the well-to-do have over

the poor, and which capital has over labor,

and all possible respect for organized labor

and the good it has already accomplished and is still capable of accomplishing, it is

plain that this condition of things is intolerable. It is as great a wrong to one side as to the other. Say what we will of the need of mutual understanding and mutual forbearance, cowardice and subserviency can never be heroic traits. The state of so-ciety which makes the cultivation of these traits necessary and requires one class to fawn upon another is a bad state of society. It makes no difference whether the poor tawn upon the rich or the rich upon the poor; it is equally an evil. In the true order of society there will be no fawning anywhere; no terrified laborers toiling on starvation wages lest they lose their places, no frightened employers on their knees before their workmen lest they block the wheels of trade and make costly machinery useless. A community which breeds these ignoble traits in any of its ranks is hopelessly rotten, and does not deserve to prosper, even it prosperity were possible on such humiliating terms. The hope of every community, whether in ancient or in modern times, lies in the resoluteness and courage of its citizens. The State is no stronger than the members of whom it is composed. If they are weak and time-serving, and ready to sacrifice everything for the sake of peace and safety, or in order to escape pecuniary loss, the State is itself weak. If they are brave and strong and contemptuous of any loss, so their honor and self-respect are preserved, the State is vigorous and able to insure blessings in the end to all its citizens. In the modern State no class has interests apart from the rest or in antagonism to them. The good of one class is the good of all, nor can any one really flourish at the expense of another."

Weaver Gets All of Kansas' Vote. TOPEKA, KAN., Dec. 17 .- The State Board of Canvassers to-day issued a certificate of election to Cabali, the Populist elector, whose election was contested on the

THE SMOKE MUST GO.

England Thinks She Has Found the Proper Way to Banish It.

RESULT OF A SCIENTIFIC TEST.

A Plan by Which the Weary Man Can

supply Himself With Czone.

BETTER TIMES IN THE BIG CITIES

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH. LONDON, Dec. 9. - The new English inrention for the consumption of smoke has been received with so much favorable criticism in England as to apparently have established its claim to be the most practical method yet devised for grappling with the smoke nuisance in cities burning bituminous coal. Some time ago an ingenious inventor showed how smoke could be robbed of half its banefulness by a refining process. His plan was to wash the smoke before it escaped through the chimneys. The new invention adopts an entirely different principle, burning the smoke by driving 18 through the fire itself. So adaptable is this principle to all kinds of fires that various cities in England are now proposing to utilize it for municipal works, including gas, electric lighting and destruc-

The London Lancet, which appointed a special commission to test the claims and merits of the system, says: "The result is eminently satisfactory, and demonstrates clearly, not only the fuel-economizing effect of the system, but also that the production of soot is practically nil." The results of the tests made by the Laucet are interesting. The report of the commission gives a com-parison of the deposit made by burning a specific quantity of coal under the new sys-tem and in an ordinary range, over a period of several days. Under the new system the percentage in dry deposit was: Carbon, 7.20; hydrogen, 0.23; mineral matter, 89.15; 7.20; hydrogen, 0.23; mineral matter, 38.13; nitrogen (partly as ammonia) and oxygen, 8.42, as against a percentage in the ordinary range o: Carbon, 78.76; mineral matter, 16.58, and nitrogen (ammonia), 6.36; the moisture being respectively 0.70 and 6.65 per cent. Coming from such an authoritative source, these figures carry great weight. It is a significant met that in no single instance were incomplete products of combatton like carbon monoxide or sulphuretted hydrogen obtained.

But the inhabitants of cities are now But the inhabitants of cities are now promised, not only an atmosphere practically smokeless, but a ready means of charging the air over a large area with ozone. Mr. Leggott, the inventor of the new method of snoke consumption spoken of above, at a recent meeting in London stated that he boped shortly to be able to demonstrate that by a twist of the hand the wearled Londoner would presently turn on his supply of life-renewing ozone just in the same way as he now switches on electricity or turns on gas or water.

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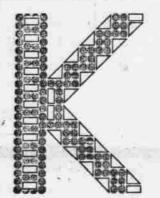
REAL ::: LEATHER

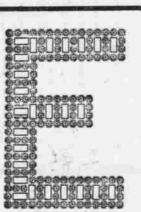
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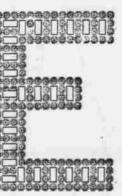
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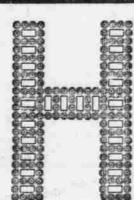
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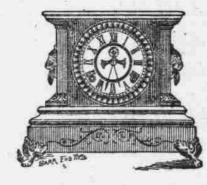
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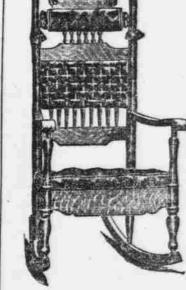
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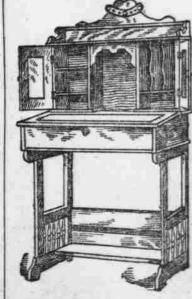
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