

*Polar Regions in the Twentieth Century*

Though he had failed to reach the North Pole, he made a world record of arctic latitude.

Peary's final voyage was made in the *Roosevelt*, built for polar service under his supervision. The Peary Arctic Club equipped the expedition with munificence; his associates were collegians, enthusiastic in work of exploration and research; years of comradeship with the Etah natives ensured his mainstay in field work, with their sledges and dogs. The *Roosevelt* left Etah on August 18, 1908, with its equipage increased by forty-nine Eskimos and two hundred twenty-six dogs; she wintered at Cape Sheridan on the exposed shores of the paleocrystic sea. Working until November 5, field parties established as far as Cape Columbia, 83° 07' N., depôts of supplies needful for spring sledging.

February 15, 1909, the journey towards the Pole began. Peary left Cape Columbia on March 1, with a force of twenty-four men, nineteen sledges and one hundred thirty-three dogs. The order of the march was in two divisions: lightly equipped pioneers, with Bartlett, Hansen and Marvin alternately in charge, preceded Peary's division by a day and cleared the trail for its advance.

The past winter had been very severe, and the temperature of 52 degrees below freezing now prevailed. It was expected that the Arctic Ocean would present an unbroken expanse of heavy ice. Instead of such conditions, however, the reverse