

the medicine stores have they some 20 or 30 bottles of the best cognac—pure, highly rectified spirit. It is Nansen's opinion that brandy-drinking in these northern regions is injurious, and may, if indulged in on such a difficult and dangerous voyage, have very serious consequences; he has therefore considered it expedient to supply its place by fruit and various sorts of sweets, of which there are large supplies on board." "In harbor the crew spent most of the day together; in spite of community of work, each individual's duties are fixed down to the minutest detail. They all sit down to meals together, with the exception of the acting cook, whose duty they take by turns. Health and good spirits are to be read on every face; Nansen's immovable faith in a successful and happy issue to their expedition inspires the whole crew with courage and confidence.

"On August 3d they shifted coal on board the *Fram* from the ship's hold down to the stoke-hold (coal bunkers). All the members of the expedition took part in this work, Nansen at their head, and they worked unitedly and cheerfully. This same day Nansen and his companions tried the dogs on shore. Eight [this should be ten] were harnessed to a sledge on which three persons took their places. Nansen expressed his satisfaction with the dogs, and thanked Tronheim for the good selection he had made, and for the excellent condition the animals were in. When the dogs were