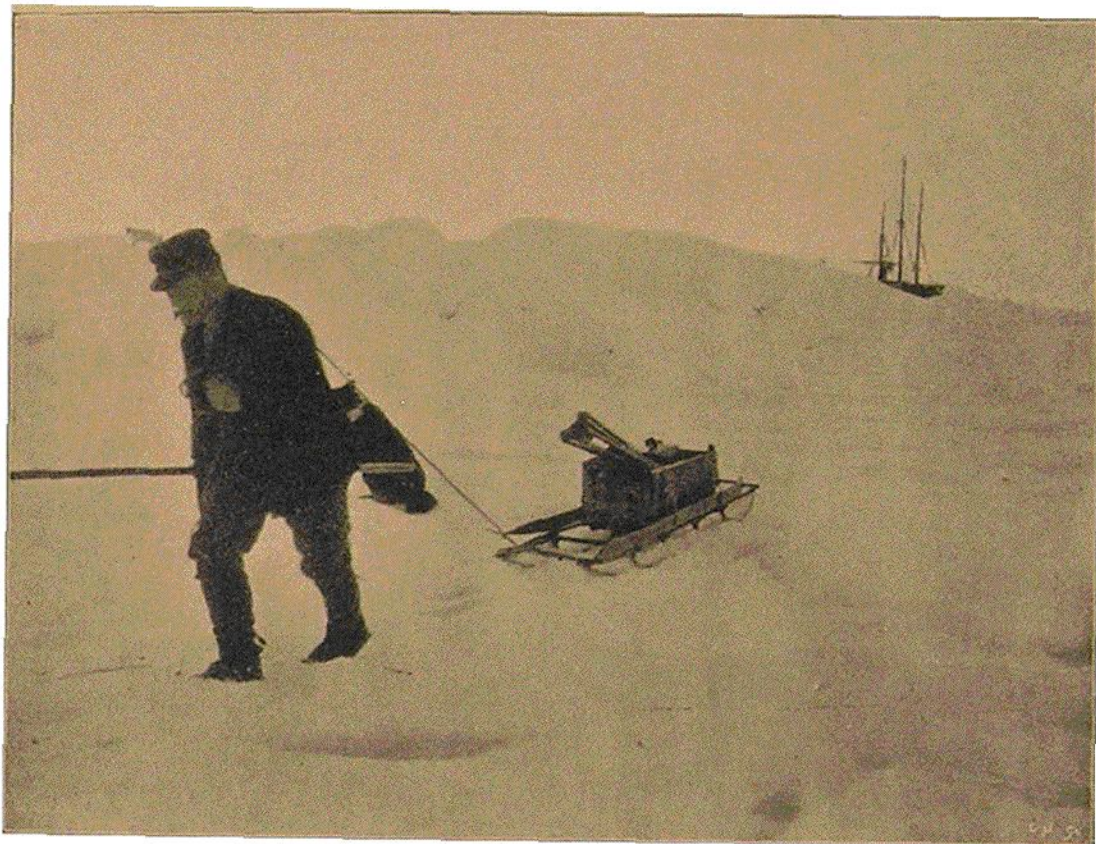


sort of ice preponderates, while pure white floes, without any traces of a dirty brown on their surface, are rare. I imagined this brown color must be due to the organisms I found in the newly-frozen, brownish-red ice last autumn (October); but the specimens I took



BLESSING GOES OFF IN SEARCH OF ALGÆ

(From a Photograph)

to-day consist, for the most part, of mineral dust mingled with diatoms and other ingredients of organic origin.*

“Blessing collected several specimens on the upper surface of the ice earlier in the summer, and came to

* The same kind of dust that I found on the ice on the east coast of Greenland, which is mentioned in the Introduction to this book, p. 39.