

## CHAPTER IX

### THE JOURNEY SOUTHWARD

At last, on Tuesday, May 19th, we were ready for the start. Our sledges stood loaded and lashed. The last thing we did was to photograph our hut, both outside and inside, and to leave in it a short report of our journey. It ran thus:

“Tuesday, May 19, 1896. We were frozen in north of Kotelnoi at about  $78^{\circ} 43'$  north latitude, September 22, 1893. Drifted northwestward during the following year, as we had expected to do. Johansen and I left the *Fram*, March 14, 1895, at about  $84^{\circ} 4'$  north latitude and  $103^{\circ}$  east longitude,\* to push on northward. The command of the remainder of the expedition was transferred to Sverdrup. Found no land northward. On April 6, 1895, we had to turn back at  $86^{\circ} 14'$  north latitude and about  $95^{\circ}$  east longitude, the ice having become impassable. Shaped our course for Cape Fligely; but our watches having stopped, we did not know our longitude with certainty, and arrived on August 6, 1895,

\* This was a slip of the pen; it ought to be  $102^{\circ}$  east longitude.