

APPENDIX

REPORT OF CAPTAIN OTTO SVERDRUP

ON

THE DRIFTING OF THE "FRAM" FROM MARCH 14, 1895

CHAPTER I

MARCH 15 TO JUNE 22, 1895

AS far back as February 26th Dr. Nansen had officially informed the crew that after he left the ship I was to be chief officer of the expedition, and Lieutenant Scott-Hansen second in command. Before starting, he handed me a letter, or set of instructions, which have been mentioned earlier in the volume.*

The day after that on which the postscript to my instructions is dated—*i.e.*, on Thursday, March 14th, at 11.30 A.M.—Dr. Nansen and Johansen left the *Fram* and set forth on their sledge expedition. We gave them a parting salute with flag, pennant, and guns. Scott-Hansen, Henriksen, and Pettersen accompanied them as far as the first camping-place, 7 or 8 miles from the vessel, and returned the next day at 2.30 P.M.

In the morning they had helped to harness the dogs and put them to the three sledges. In the team of the last sledge there were "Barnet" and "Pan," who all the time had been mortal enemies.† They began to fight, and Henriksen had to

* Vide pp. 91-98, Vol. II.

† Little "Barnet," who weighed only 38 pounds, and was one of the smallest of the dogs, was a regular fighter, and, as a rule, the aggressor.