

COPY OF THE DIARY OF F.J. HOOPER
 of the British Antarctic Expedition,
 1910-13, R.F. Scott, "Terra Nova"

F.J. Hooper
 Cape Evans
 Antarctica
 1912.

Oct. 17: Crean, Mather (?) H. Dickason to go aboard ship.

No.2 sledge, Abdullah

Sledge & Tank	53	lbs.
Inst. Box	7	
Cooker & Primus	15	
Spares & spirit Can	2	
Sleeping Bag	13	
Personal gear	15	
Skies & sticks	13	
Picketting Line	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Theod. & stand	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Pony goggles		
Skie Shoes		
Crampons	15	
Snow Shoes		
Man Harness		
Nose Bag	1	
Therm.	1	
Aneroid		
Bev. & Cart	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Pony cloth	12	
	151 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	164 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	176	

To pick up at Hut Point

Total	164 $\frac{1}{2}$
8 h. Rations	326
2 Tins of Biscuits	84
	574 $\frac{1}{2}$

We are to leave here, Cape Evans, on Oct 29th for Hut Point where we shall stay 3 days packing sledges for a start on the night of the 1st Nov. weather permitting. 7 mules 2 dog teams & 11 men, 8 men with the mules, 3 men with the dogs are the party going south. Most of the food is at Hut Point, so we leave there finally. Four mules are going to Hut Point this week to take more food.

The dogs will have 2 or 3 days after the mules & hope to pick us up about 8 miles in on the Barrier. The Program for the journey is made out by Dr. Atkinson. We are going to kill 3 mules at Mt Hooper Lat. 80.30S, & take the other four to the bottom of the Beardmore glacier & then kill them. The two dog teams & four men will return from there to Cape Evans, leaving 8 men to ascend the

glacier. Four of the eight will stop at the Cloudmaker to get specimens & the other four will continue up the glacier to Mt Darwin in case we should find them anywhere on the Barrier. He has got an ideal to go exploring to the East of the Beardmore, but I have my doubts whether we shall. We are leaving two people behind in the hut. I am afraid they will have a pretty thin time of it. They are going to Cape Royds which is 8 miles north of this place on the 15 Nov. to collect penguin eggs, etc. They will be over there till about the 15th of December.

Mule Party

Mr Wright	<u>Navigator</u>
Mr Gran	Lah Kan
Mr Nelson	Kan Sahib
T. Crean	Ranin
T. Williamson	Gulah
P. Keohane	Begum
W. Lashly	Pujarce
F.J. Hooper	Abdullah

Dog Party

Dr. Atkinson
Mr Cherry-Garrard
D.S. Geroff

Hut Party

M.F. Debenham
Mr W. Archer

Oct. 31st, Packing of sledges. Leaving Cape Evans with:

2 Pem, 8 Butter, 8 Raisin, 16 Tea, 8 Sugar, 8 Chocolate, 8 Cocoa,
10 Cornflour, 4 Curry Powder, 5 tins salt.

Oct. 29th, 1912.

Left Cape Evans at 10.30 a.m. for Hut Point where we shall make our final start, overcast when starting, Erebus covered with a cloud. After being on the way for an hour the sun broke through the clouds. Camped for lunch 4 miles the other side of Big Razor Back. All mules going well, Pujarce is still lame but not so bad. Arrived at Hut Point at 5.30 p.m., turned in at 8.0 p.m. We are starting for the south tomorrow night, Oct. 30th.

Hut Point, Dec. 30th. (Oct.?)

Up at 8.0 to breakfast, packed sledges. I am leaving Hut Point with 5h rations + 2 Pemmican, 1 case Dog Biscuits, 1 Man Biscuits & spare bamboos for marking Depots. Tom and I went for a walk through the Gap, met Geroff and he came with us round Cape Armitage. Had lunch at 1.0 p.m. & turned in till 6.0 p.m. Had supper & got underway at 7.15. Absolutely splendid surface to Cape Armitage, not so good to barrier, sledges drawing light, but mules sinking above the fetlock. Reached the Barrier edge about 9.0 p.m., had a little trouble in getting mules over (Tide Crack). Abdullah & Kan Sahib fell down, had a struggle with Kan Sahib but managed to get away alright. Camped about 2 miles in on the Barrier at 11.0 p.m. Mules are a little tired, Keohane is cook this week. Mr Wright, Lashly, Keohane & I are tent mates.

Distance during the morning, 7 miles. Temperature, minus 9. Away again at 12.30 a.m. of the 31st, splendid surface, mules all very tired, too tired to eat their food, passed a cairn shortly after starting, 3 miles from safety camp. Camped for the night about 3.30 a.m., built pony walls to keep as much wind as possible off them. Turned in at 7.0 a.m., temperature minus 5, overcast. Dec. 31st (~~Oct 31st~~?) Had a short blizz. in the night.

31st & Nov. 1st. A very dull day, overcast & very bad light, surface rather bad for mules. Camped for lunch 10 a.m. Nov. 1st. Away again at 2.30 a.m. Gulab is suffering with a very nasty chafe, owing to the collar that is wearing. I changed my breast harness with Tom so as to ease his mule a bit. Abdullah has not pulled so well with the collar, as a matter of fact he could hardly walk into camp this evening. I am afraid we are doing too much marching over this bad surface for them. They were all very tired and sweating a great deal. The sun broke through the clouds as we camped, by the time we had had supper it was quite hot. It was warm enough to change foot gear outside. Just had a look at the mules. They are shivering with the cold, temperature minus 11. 1 tin of oil opened for lunch today.

1st, Nov. 2nd. A beautiful day, cloudless sky, no wind but cold temp., surface very bad for the mules. We crossed a field of crevasses this morning, all of us roped up. Mr Wright, Lashly, Keohane & myself were roped together & Nelson, Crean, Williamson & Gran. I was leading with Abdullah, he was going rather fast for Kan Sahib so we had to keep on stopping for them to come up, reached Corner Camp at 12.45 Nov. 2nd, where we camped for the day to readjust sledges & give mules a rest. I am leaving here with 3 h extra which brings my weight up to the total of 574. We have not got our sledging appetite yet, I went my lot for the first time today, none of the others are eating theirs yet. Gulab has got another chafe, his breast is absolutely covered with chafes. He is suffering a great deal. Temperature lunch time minus 22.5, supper -16.8. Turned in at 9 a.m of the 2nd.

Abdullah has eaten all the tape off his cloth & also half his nose bag. I had to sew more lamp wick on and that was not a very nice job in minus 22. All the mules seem to be doing the same.

Nov. 2nd, Corner Camp. A very dull day, wind & drift from the south, surface fair. Stopped at Motor Car to refill oil. Mules pulling much better. Towards evening sun was shining on the Bluff & Western Mt., reached 12 mile camp at 5.15 a.m of the 3rd. We built 3 cairns before lunch. 12 Mile Camp is about 2 miles east of our course. Started blizzing just before turning in, temperature minus 10.

Nov. 3rd, 4th. 12 Mile Camp. Another dull day, wind & drift from south, surface splendid, could not be better for the mules. I picked up 1 sack of oats at 12 Mile Camp which brings my weight up to 694lbs & also dumped 1 dog biscuits. The poor mules were absolutely covered with drift this morning, great lumps of ice were hanging from their coats & heads. Camped for lunch about 12.0 midnight, built a cairn this morning and 1 this afternoon, started blizzing again just as we were camping. We are doing 12 miles a day. I have been leading with Abdullah since we started, cannot get another mule to lead & keep up the pace. Camped tonight at 5.0 a.m. of the 4th.

Nov. 4th, 5th. 24^mC.C. Another dull day, drift & wind. Dogs came up at 9.0 p.m. Things don't seem to be going well with Dr. & his team. He has altered his mind about sending dogs to the bottom of the Beardmore. He is sending them back from Mr Hooper, Lat.80.30. We did no marching today owing to strong wind. I am dumping 1 sack of oats, 160 lbs & picking up 3 tins of biscuits which weigh 32 lbs. We gave mules a hot feed for lunch, boiled oats & oil cake. They don't eat half their food, Lah Ran has not eaten anything since leaving Hut Point. The weather clearing, wind dropped & is getting quite warm, temperature zero. All frost rine is off tent.

Just turned in again for the 2nd time today, 5th.

5th, 6th. 24 miles C.C. Total 662 lbs. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles today, good going, surface absolutely splendid. Abdullah has got a bad chafe through wearing the collar. Mr Gran has changed breast harness. I am afraid Lah Kan will soon get a chafe with it. Sunbright this afternoon, built 3 cairns this morning & 1 this afternoon, another at our camp tonight.

6th, 7th. A very dull day when starting but cleared after lunch, surface much softer than yesterday. Abdullah has got another chafe, Gulab has got the collar once again. He is absolutely done up and he will be shot at 1 Ton Camp. Lah Kan has eaten today for the first time, as a matter of fact hardly any of them has eaten much since leaving. I took over cook today at lunch. Weather very bright at present. Turned (in) at 8.15 a.m., 7th.

7th, 8th. A very bright day, cloudless sky, good marching, another 12 miles. Passed Bluff Depot this afternoon half hour after starting from lunch. Mules are going very well. Temperature at lunchtime 62° of frost, tonight 49° below. We are now 4 miles south of Bluff Depot, 103 miles from Cape Evans.

8th, 9th. Another good day. Slight wind from the north, bitterly cold. Temperature 53° of frost, surface fair. A good many frost-bites today. Camped today 16 miles south of Bluff. We are now 16 miles north of 1 Ton Depot which we hope to reach day after tomorrow.

9th, 10th. 12 miles, good today. Weather bright but cold. Surface soft in places. Temperature 55° of frost at lunch. Tonight much warmer 41°. Abdullah is absolutely tired out, & so are all of them. He has not eaten anything again today. I have got a few frostbites on my fingers & also my face. As matter of fact we are all suffering from frostbites. We are now camped 4 miles north of 1 Ton Depot.

10th. 1 Ton Depot.

A dull morning & bitterly cold wing, face badly frost bitten, surface getting much softer. They took Abdullah from leading & tried Gulab, but he would not lead, kept stopping. Abdullah has got to lead again tomorrow. I have had a good bit of weight taken from my sledge here, my total weight 430 lbs. We are leaving here 3H rations for our return journey. The Depot that was laid here by Garrard last March for the Pole Party was absolutely covered with Parafin. Apparently he left Hut Point with 2 x S Rations covered with parafin, being dark at Hut Point he could not see whether they were alright or not. It also ruined the other food that was left here by Day, Nelson & Clissold & myself in Jan. We reached here about 12.0 midnight & stopped here the remaining part of the day, temperature 39° frost. They are not going to kill Gulab here.

11th, 12th. We found the Pole Party this evening about 11 miles south of 1 Ton Depot. We noticed what we thought was a cairn 1 mile to the west of our course, when we got up to it we found it was a tent badly drifted up. We dug it out & lifted the tent off & I shall never forget the sight that met our eyes. Capt. Scott was laying with his head opposite the door, half out of his bag, both of his arms were thrown across the other two bags which we found contained Dr. Wilson & Lt. Bowers. It's apparent they have died of starvation. Dr. Atkinson read us a few details out of Capt. Scott's diary. They reached the Pole on Jan. 17th, 1912, three weeks after Amundsen had reached it. Coming back down the Beardmore P.O. Evans fell and hit his head & some blue ice. He died shortly after on the Lower Glacier. They had very bad weather & low temperatures all the time Capt. Oates was badly frost bitten about the face & feet. About two days from Mt Hooper they had a blizz. & Capt. Oates went to sleep with the intention of not waking again. He has been suffering some time with frostbites. On the following evening he said he was going out of the tent for a minute & would not be long. He was never seen again after that. It appears he walked to his death to save his companions. They reached here on March the 21st, short of food and fuel & badly frostbitten. They only had 2 cups of tea from the 20th to the 29th. The last entry in Capt. Scott's diary was on the 29th March. It appears he was the last alive out of the three. I don't know at present when the others died. He said death was due from shortage of food, fuel & frostbite.

We had a service over them & buried them as they were absolutely stiff, frozen in every limb. It was an awful sight to see our dear comrades in such a state, a sight I shall never forget in a hurry. I forgot to say that a blizzard kept them at this place. It lasted over 8 days. There was absolutely no food or oil in the tent or on the sledge. It looked very much like that Dr Wilson & Lt. Bowers died while asleep, but Capt. Scott must have been awake when he passed away, his eyes were wide open & he looked as though he must have been in great pain. I will try and give more detail later.

12th - 13th. We built a large cairn over them today & cut a pair of skis in half & made a cross & I stood it on the cairn. We are going 18 miles further south to try & find the body of Capt. Oates & then we are going back to Hut Point & start for Lt. Campbell to see what has happened to his party. We shot two mules today, Lah Kan & Kan Sahb. We are now 17 miles south of 1 Ton, we are marching 1 more day south & will return. We are taking the mules back to Hut Point if we can. Surface is getting much softer, we had a bitterly cold wind this afternoon & our faces were badly frostbitten. Temperature 50° below freezing.

13th - 14th. Not a very nice day, dull & strong wind from S.E. Surface very soft indeed. Abdullah has been bleeding from all four fetlocks. Frostbitten again today, lunch time my feel went. Temperature 43° below. We are now at the farthest south that we intend to go, Lat. 80 south, & we will return tomorrow to Hut Point, where we intend to start again for the West to try & find Lt. Campbell & his party. It has started to blizz. outside & my fingers are getting cold. Distance from Cape Evans 160 miles.

Oct. (Nov.?) 14th - 15th. 12½ miles. We turned north today, S.E. wind & drift, surface very soft, mules are tired today. Abdullah went last much longer. Mr Wright took over cook yesterday at lunch. We are on extra rations now. It's now blowing very hard. Camped at our old Pony Walls tonight.

15th - 16th. 7 miles today, dull, S.W. wind & drift when starting,

surface improving. Came on to blizz after about 2 miles, managed to struggle on for the other 5 miles. We are now at the place where we found our comrades, 11 miles from 1 Ton Depot. Turned in for the afternoon, just had supper, still blizzing. Abdullah has not eaten anything again today. He even refused a lump of sugar & 1 of my biscuits so I think he must be kicking the bucket. Temperature is pretty high, 15 below freezing.

16 - 17. Another dull day, warm, but no sun, surface not so good, light very bad, mules tired today. Camped at 1 Ton Depot & picked up the food that we depoted on our way out. We are going to take back all food that we have so as to go to the West. Turned in about 9.0 a.m.

Nov. 17th - 18th. Another rotten day, very bad light & very bad surface. I left 1 Ton with 506 lbs 7h ration, Mr Wright managed to steer our course straight. We picked up all cairns so we are right on our track. My eyes feel very weak tonight through leading & looking out for cairns which is very trying for the eyes in this light. Camped 12 miles north of 1 Ton, temperature 13 below.

Nov 18 - 19. Still no sun & bad light. Surface much harder, I wore my skis this afternoon & found it much easier to get along. Abdullah is now blind (poor beast). The wind is blowing quite strong S.W. but warm. We are now 25 miles north of 1 Ton & 7 miles south of Bluff which we hope to reach tomorrow at lunch.

19th - 20th. Again no sun, surface very heavy, light bad, snowing & blowing from S.W. I got off my skis this afternoon owing to a chafed heel. Our sleeping bags & gear are absolutely wet through, the snow is melting as soon as it gets on our wind clothes & making us very wet. We are now 6 miles south of Bluff Depot. The mules are still going strong, not eaten anything again today.

Nov. 20 - 21st. A much better day today. We had the sun for 4 hours but the later end of the day we had a good old barrier fog & only saw it dimly through the fog. The surface has improved a little, slight wind from the north, warm. Abdullah is still bleeding from fetlock, every time he lifts his legs up he drags his hoof along the snow, poor beast. He is going fast. They all seem to be getting very thin, all off their food. We are now 18 south of Bluff Depot, saw White Island, Erebus & Terror this morning. The dogs picked up a depot Lt. Evans & Lashly & Crean laid last year, spare clothing, etc. Temperature x 15. Keohane took over cook lunch time.

12 miles. 21st - 22nd. A beautiful day, one of the best. We've had the sun all day & its scorching hot, one could go about without hat or mits, no wind, surface has improved a great deal. I don't think it could be better, we are now 67 miles south of Cape Evans & hope to reach back in four & half days, I only hope I can get Abdullah back to Hut Point, I don't suppose he has eaten 6 lb of food since leaving. Temperature tonight 15 below.

22nd - 23rd. A very good morning, but dull afternoon, a thick fog so thick that we missed our depot 12 miles from Corner Camp. Surface has been splendid all day, still the mules are going well but very tired at night. The dogs leave us tomorrow & go straight into Cape Evans. We hope to follow to Hut Point & await there for further orders. Abdullah is still very snowblind. Temperature 26° below.

23rd - 24th. A very dull day, light very bad & surface d...d rotten. It has cleared since we've been camped. We are now at Corner Camp & can see Terror, Erebus & Western Mountains. The dogs

passed us lunch time. They were to have left before us this morning, but owing to the bad light they did not leave till lunch time. We were at Motor Car which is $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles from here when they left here for home. Mules are still alive & that is just about all I can say. We shall have a hard day tomorrow if this surface continues. Temperature tonight is quite warm, 12 below freezing.

Nov. 24th - 25th. A bright day, but bitterly cold wind from S.W., surface very bad. We turned west this morning & passed over a field of crevasses. Begum fell through a small one, got her out without much trouble. We were all on skis today. We are now 12 miles from Safety Camp which is only 6 miles from Hut Point. Temperature at present is very low, 50° below.

25th - 26th. Another bright day, surface d...d bad this morning but improved this afternoon. I put snow shoes on Abdullah this morning but it made him worse than ever. He fell down & we could not get him up for some time. Mr Wright, Gran & myself put our harnesses on & helped him along with his load. This afternoon I lead him a long in front & Mr Wright, Nelson & Gran pulled the sledge that Pujarce had been pulling & Pujarce took over the one I had. Poor old Abdullah, I don't think he will reach Cape Evans. We are now camped at Safety Camp, 6 miles from Hut Point.

26 - 27. Good news today, cloudless sky & bright sun, surface very bad. I lead Abdullah or at least pulled him to Hut Point, he arrived and just about all. As we were nearing Hut Point Dr. Atkinson came out waving his arms & soon after we saw another person coming running down & found it was Lt. Campbell who was left behind in the Western Mountains last year. His party are in the best of health & are now at Cape Evans where we shall be in two days time, Dr. At. & Lt. Campbell left just now for Cape Evans. We have now turned in to get back to day routine.

27th. Spent the day clearing up, etc., & leaving hut in good condition. Mules are very weak & in a very bad condition.

28th. A splendid day for our last march. Cloudless sky & perfect surface, slight S.E. wind, I put Abdullah in the sledge with only my sleeping bag on it, he just managed to pull it & that is all. He fell down on some blue ice just after starting. We managed to do the trip without stopping for lunch, arrived at Cape Evans at 1.0 p.m., old Charlie met us on the Cape & Mr Priestly, Dr. Levick just after. We found the rest of the Eastern Party in the hut, Tiny Abbott, B. Browning & Dickason, looking well & fit. Abdullah has arrived back & that's just about all, 330 miles on the Great Ice Sheet without food.

Our ascent to Mount Erebus, which is 13,000 feet in height.

Dec. 2nd. We left the hut this morning. Absolutely perfect weather for a start, one of the best days I've ever seen since I've been here. The Party was Mr Priestley, Debenham, Gran in one tent, Tiny Abbott, H. Dickason & myself. The rest of the Hut Party helped us up the ramp, we had a hellish pull going up, carried the sledge about 100 yards altogether. Dr. Atkinson, Garrard & Mr Archer went to Cape Royds so we went part of the way with them, as usual I fell down a crevasse. Lunched after a very hard pull, 800 feet high. About 1 hour after starting we camped again. Mr Priestley, Debenham & Dickason went down to Cape Royds & Gran, Abbott & myself stayed behind. They came back about 7.0 p.m. Mr Gran & Abbott & myself are going back to Cape Evans tomorrow to get some boots for Mr Debenham, Priestley & Dickason are going

to Cape Royds to get some eggs, temperature tonight x 34.

Dec. 3rd. Another splendid day, cloudless sky & not a breath of wind. Mr Priestley & Dickason started for Cape Royds about 9.0 a.m. & Mr Gran, P. Abbott & myself left about the same time for Cape Evans. I fell down 2 crevasses & Abbott fell down 3, arrived at Cape Evans just in time for lunch, left again at 3.0 p.m., arrived back to our camp about 6.0 p.m. Mr Priestley & Dickason came in about half hour after. They found 23 eggs so we had 12 in our tent & they had 11 in theirs. We ate 4 each for our supper. Temperature tonight x 29.

Dec. 4th. We started our ascent today, very dull when starting. We passed through a cloud shortly after starting & came out into very bright weather. We had a very hard pull up all day, we are now 3,900 feet. We had a glimpse of the West Mt. over the clouds which absolutely splendid, can still see the clouds below. I expect they are having dull weather at Cape Evans. We have had it scorching hot all day & are badly sunburnt. Temperature

Dec. 5th. A day in the bag. Dull & very bad light, too bad to ascend to Erebus.

Dec. 6th. Another day in the bag, snowing & thick fog. Spent the day talking, smoking & reading, only 2 meals today.

Dec. 7th. On the way today, bright sun, but clouded, surface very bad. We are now 5,900 up. Camped for lunch & stopped the rest of the day. Mr Priestley, Gran & Abbott & Dickason went over to a peak about 2 miles away. Its named after Abbott, Abbott's Peak. Mr Debenham & myself remained in camp talking & smoking. The other party returned about 3 hours later, had supper & Mr Gran took several photos of us & our camp. Temperature plus 9.

Dec. 8th. Bright warm day, no wind, but still a great number of clouds below us. A very hard pull & steep climbing. We are now 8,000 feet up. The old crater is about a mile away. We are going to leave the sledge here & carry what gear we want on up. Mr Debenham, Tiny Abbott & I are going over the old crater tomorrow, we expect to be away about two days. We are camped just this side of a glacier with a great many crevasses in. Mr Gran has taken a few photos of our camp with the old crater in the background. The other three are going to help us up with our gear, etc., as far as possible. We are all feeling a bit sick (mt. sickness I expect)

We depot half of our food about 2000 feet below, so we are on short food for the present. Temperature tonight plus 14. I must say my tentmates are two of the best. We change tents tomorrow. Dickason is going with Mr Priestley & Gran. We are a very happy party. My lips are getting very bad, bleeding & they are also split. I expect they will get a great deal worse before I get down again.

Dec. 9th. A bright day, no wind & cloudless sky. We are now 9,000 feet up. We left this morning carrying our camping gear, etc., up to this place. Our program has been altered a bit. Mr Priestley, Gran, Dickason and I went over to old crater to get specimens, we passed over the glacier - Mr Gran managed to find one crevasse. Mr Debenham and Abbott went past the old crater surveying. After coming back from the old crater Mr Gran, Dickason & I descended to 6,000 feet where we made a depot on the 8th to ascend Erebus on the west side. We arrived at depot & brought some food, etc., to ascend the mt. from this side, as it seems much easier. We were

absolutely tired out when we got here. We pulled the sledge & the other party's tent, etc., up to here. We are going to pull sledge up another 1,000 feet & then carry one tent up to the top of the new crater & all six live in one tent. Temperature last night minus 12, tonight minus 8.

Dec. 10th. Very good weather till lunch & ice crystals falling. We ascended to the top of the second crater today. We pulled sledge up to 9,200 feet, lunched & left one tent & Mr Debenham & Dickason as Mr Debenham is not well. Mr Priestley, Gran, Abbott & myself went up to the top where we are at present. Deb. & Dickason helped us up to 9,200 feet with the sledge. We left them & started carrying our gear on up. Had a devil of a climb over snow slopes & rocks. We had a strong smell of sulphur at 10,000 feet, arrived inside the second crater at 4.30 p.m., 11,000 feet. Temperature -11. It is now blowing quite hard outside our tent. Tomorrow, if fine, we will ascend to the new crater which is another 2,000 feet up. We are on half rations up here, hope to be here for four days. My fingers are getting very cold so must stop for tonight.

Dec. 11th. Half a day in the bag, dull and snowing, just see the sun through the clouds. Abbott is cook, we've only got half the cooks up here & makes things rather hard on the cook. Temperature was minus 20 last night & now its minus 9°. We have been on absolutely new ground for this last week. One other party has been here, in 1907 Lt. Shackleton's party, six, they ascended from the other side of Erebus & only stayed half a day & only on one crater that was the new. There are four craters up here, 1st, 2nd, 3rd. & 4th, the 4th now in action & the others are all burned up. We have explored two of them & hope to explore the other two tomorrow. Had lunch & explored the second crater. It came on thick about half hour after we had started & so we turned back & once more into bags. Had supper & its still blizzing. Temperature minus 16.8. We find it very cold up here.

Dec. 12th. 1.30 a.m., temperature minus 30.2 at midnight, its now minus 23.8. Absolutely cloudless sky except a great deal of smoke coming from the crater about 1 mile to the south of our camp. Mr Gran went out at 1.0 a.m. & found it quite clear, so he called all hands. We had breakfast and started for our last climb to the summit. We left at 2.30 a.m., strong S.E. wind coming down the mountain side & making us very cold. I suffered with cold feet & hands, never felt so cold since I've been down here, as I did on the summit of Erebus. We arrived up there about 4.0 a.m. after a hell of a climb, temperature minus 18, and wind blowing from 30 to 40 miles an hour. We stopped only a short time as my feet were badly frost-bitten. Took several photos of the four of us on the summit with our flags flying. Abbott & I came down to our camp & Mr Priestley & Gran collected some specimens & came down about 2 hours after we had got in the tent.

As soon as Abbott & I were in camp we lit the primus & warmed ourselves up a bit. My feet & hands have been badly frostbitten when on the top but have come round alright, "thank goodness". I must say up to the present we've done splendid in making this a successful trip for the Antarctic Expedition. Turned in till 1.0 p.m., had lunch at 1.30 p.m. & came on down to Mr Debenham's camp. We were not long in getting down, about 1 hour or less. We were sliding down the majority of the way on snow slopes. It was a great change to get down to a warmer atmosphere & also to have a good cup of pemmican without a lot of grit in it. Our pem & tea when at the top was absolutely full of it. Had a cup of tea when we arrived, all in one tent. Mr Gran has got a terrible headache, he was sick coming down & is now in his bag. Dickason, Gran & myself are in one tent at the

present, but hope to be changed tomorrow. Abbott & I had our photos taken cooking in the tent just to show how we managed with half a cooker on the summit. Dickason & I got our sledge ready for our start down tomorrow.

It was a great treat to get one's pipe again, of course we left our pipes and tob. down here, as one could not get enough breath to smoke when at 13,000 feet. The five of us had supper in one tent tonight, owing to Mr Gran being in the other, we did not want to wake him up. The temperature tonight, minus 2.

Note. When we left Mr Priestley & Gran at the summit, we came straight down. They went looking for specimens, etc. When they were at the bottom, Mr Priestley discovered that he had left one packet of films at the summit. Mr Gran went back to fetch them. On arriving at the top there was suddenly an explosion & he was in great danger. Mr Priestley, on hearing it, ran to Mr Gran's assistance thinking that he was in danger. He was much relieved on reaching the top to see Mr Gran quite safe. I think it has made Mr Gran a bit queer.

Dec. 13th. Up at 7.30 a.m. to breakfast. Dickason is now waking. Weather last night rather windy & cold. Temperature about minus 30, this morning minus 3.8, rather cloudy, & no wind. We started down at 9.0 a.m., sledge sliding a great deal down the steep slopes. We had several falls & also a sledge turning over a goodbit. We arrived at our depot at 11.30 & are now camped at 6,500 feet. We had lunch & are getting ready to go to a peak about 2 miles away, which is going to be named after myself. Mr Priestley, Debenham, Abbott & I are going, Mr Gran & Dickason are staying behind. Mr Gran is much better today.

(The weather now) blowing a good bit & slight surface drift, sun still bright, but cloudy sky & expect we shall get a few frostbites this afternoon. We started off all roped up for Hooper's Shoulder which is 6,800 feet high. It was a very warm wind so we did not get any frostbites. We had a good look round & collected many specimens. Mr Priestley got one for me from the very top. Mr Debenham took several photos of me on the Shoulder. We arrived back here about 6.30 p.m. & had supper, a chat & smoke. It's now blowing quite strong & surface drift. We hope to return to Cape Royds tomorrow, weather permitting.

Dec. 14th. Blowing & drifting, spent day in the bag, talking, smoking & reading. Had only one meal.

Dec. 15th. Still drifting & blowing when starting but cleared after half an hour on the way. After we had descended about 3,000 feet we noticed we had left 1 bag of specimens behind at our last camp so Mr Gran & Abbott went back to get it. We waited about $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour & it came on so thick that we decided it would be safer to go back a little way with tent & bags in case they should get lost. We ascended 2,000 feet & waited a little while, but they did not turn up. Mr P. went on ahead to a big cone & had a look with glasses. He saw them about 500 feet below us so Mr D. went after them. We all descended together after that. Had lunch at 1,700 feet & carried on down to a large cone where we depot 1 tent & cooker & 1 tin of Biscuits for Mr P. & D., for their plan tabling work which they are going to do at Cape Royds till the ship arrives. We pulled sledge within a mile of the hut & they carried our sleeping bags, etc., to Cape Royds where we found Mr Campbell & his party & also Dr. Atkinson's party. Had a d-- good supper & a walk round the rookery, old Charlie is in fine form.

Dec. 16th. A day at Cape Royds, blowing & snowing this morning but cleared about 4.0 p.m. Spent the day reading & this evening went for a walk with the boys over the cape, picked up 10 eggs on our way round. Turned in about 10.0 p.m.

Dec. 17th. Still blowing & drifting too bad to go outside. It was very cold in the hut today, my knees and feet have been very cold all day. Spent the best part of the day reading & smoking. T.W. & I were cooks for lunch. The party over here now is Lt. Campbell, Dr. Atkinson, Mr Priestley, Debenham, Wright, Cherry-Garrard, Gran, Archer, Williamson, Abbott, Dickason & I. Seven of us are going back to Cape Evans tomorrow, weather permitting. We were to have started today but owing to bad weather were detained for another day.

Dec. 18th. My last sledging, I hope, is finished. We returned today to Cape Evans after a heavy pull through deep snow, sinking in to our knees & sometimes up to our waists. We had a little trouble in crossing Barnes Glacier. I was pulling behind, or at least stopping the sledge from sliding downhill. The other five were of course in front & found all the crevasses which were a good few. Twice three of our party fell down together & had a narrow escape, once Mr Gran & Dickason suddenly disappeared both together down a very big crevasse. We managed to get over at last. The boys were glad to see us back again. They have had a good time here since Lt. C. has been away. They only wished that he had stayed away a little longer. Turned in at 9.45.

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