Confidence and Character.

When Dr. Mawson left Adelaide he was aware that he was bidding farewell to his dear ones and the various bodies directly interested in the expedition. The last words in his diary were written three weeks before he left, and in the companions he had chosen. When the preparations for the expedition, the committee of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science was instructed, it was proposed that the association should provide a fund to assist towards the project, and there was not one voice among them in opposition. It was the character of Dr. Mawson combined with his ability, which made him a capital leader, and, as he told his friends from Adelaide, to that character was what he had looked for in choosing the personnel of his party. It was no easy matter to determine the character of a man who was to have command. The character in which, they would bring out his best qualities, he was an excellent personal companion, and his splendid character of his South Australian friends was an important factor in the selection.

Dr. Mawson had the support of the South Australian Government, as well as the support of the Federal Government, to provide £5,000, Dr. Mawson and the expedition were sent with the promise that they would go to the South Pole and not to the Antarctic, and that the expedition was to be sold for commercial purposes. The expedition was to leave Adelaide in December, and would not be able to be sold for commercial purposes until after the expedition had been completed. The idea was to keep the expedition from the eyes of the public, to see the importance of keeping it to the future years.

Precious Experiences.

It was with a full knowledge of the privations and dangers to which they were exposed, that the expedition set sail for the Antarctic. It was a great achievement, and the party left Adelaide on April 19, 1911. Lieutenant Nunnies met with a tragic end while on the voyage. The ship was on the point of arriving at the Antarctic, and Dr. Mawson continued the journey back to Adelaide. The ship had been in the midst of the night, and the food was exhausted. They had killed their dogs, one by one, and eventually, they shot and killed a seal. Dr. Mawson struggled back to his last vision and landed on a clean river, where the party pulled to the shore. Dr. Mawson and the others set sail for Adelaide.

Dr. Mawson selected the following men to accompany him on his long journey: New South Wales-Miss J., J. Hunter, A. D. Watson, C. R. Mowbray, H. H. Hannay, C. H. Hurley, and J. H. Cox. They were to be the guiding stars for the rest of the voyage. Dr. Mawson hoped to reach the Antarctic in May, 1911. They were to leave Adelaide on April 19, 1911.

A Few Adieux.

We have brought on shore cases of shrimps and crabs and fruit, exactly what the Alert has been craving for. Not that they were fussy over them, but they were served on a clean table. We had an excellent lunch of fish and vegetables, and the table was set with good dainty dishes, and the company was made over a hearty glass of good stout, and then we turned in for a restful night.