The Register

Dr. Mawson’s Great Fear.

I am going to touch upon what was perhaps the most melodramatic and, at the same time, the least pleasant experience of Dr. Mawson’s South polar expedition, and that was the sledging journey undertaken by Dr. Mawson in company with a large party of men and women (Anon.). Perhaps some day the tale of the exploit will be told to the world in such a manner as to make it appear a trifle commonplace, perhaps a little exaggerated. But even so, it remains, I believe, one of the most individual experiences of the expedition, and Dr. Mawson himself appears to have drawn the most benefit from it. He has always maintained that it was his most adventurous experience, and I do not think he has had occasion to regret his decision to make it. In short, I am inclined to think that it was one of the most pleasant experiences of his life, and I do not think he has had occasion to regret his decision to make it. (Applause.)

Then just about the time that he had managed to get back to camp, Capt. Davis had come into the tent with a stern look on his face, saying that the winter was coming on again, and it was time to start back. Capt. Davis had to decide whether he would stay for some weeks longer and make another attempt to get to the coast, or whether he would leave the party to join the others at the western Station. Dr. Mawson was in two minds about both plans, but in the end he decided to take the latter. Dr. Mawson realized that he had not time to take both parties, and he had to make his mind up. He did come back, and get close to shore; but he did not have time to make the journey. So he had to leave them, and to leave the party in a hurry.

The result is that Dr. Mawson has been forced to face a great deal of anxiety, and to feel that he has done wrong in leaving the party in that condition. He has been forced to face a great deal of anxiety, and to feel that he has done wrong in leaving the party in that condition. (Applause.)

The Solitary March.

Then Dr. Mawson and his companion were awaiting the return of the expedition, and it was on this occasion that Dr. Mawson was forced to face a great deal of anxiety, and to feel that he has done wrong in leaving the party in that condition. He has been forced to face a great deal of anxiety, and to feel that he has done wrong in leaving the party in that condition. (Applause.)

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