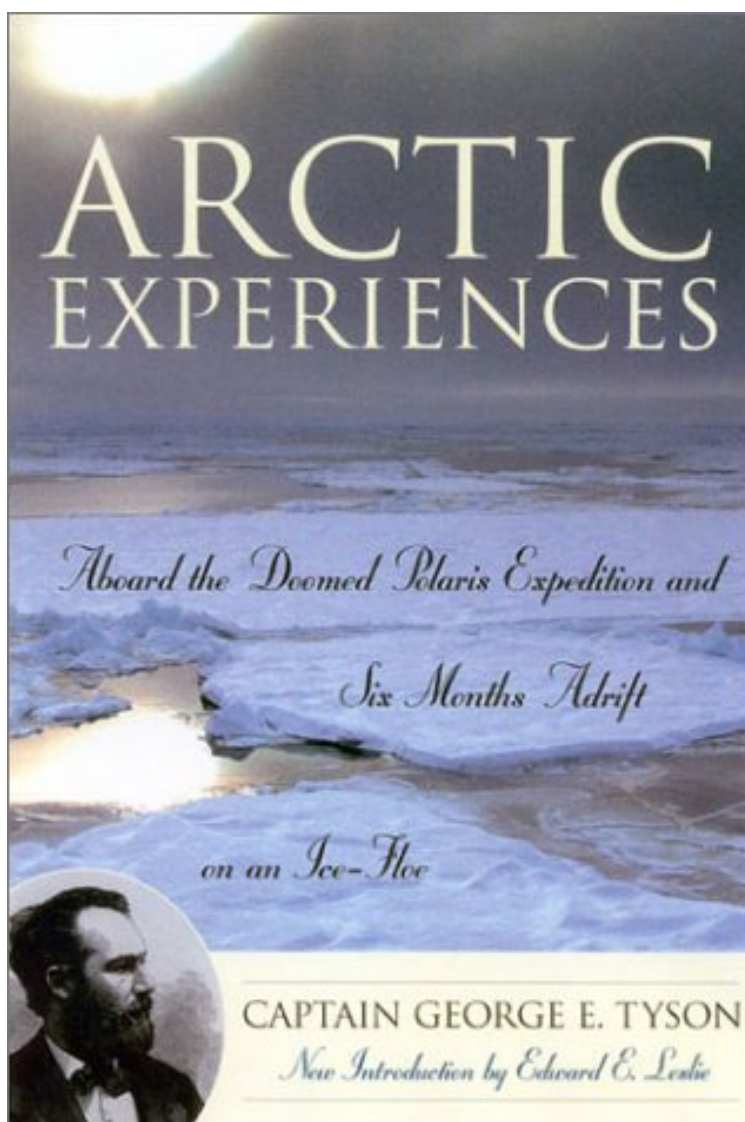


(Mobile pdf) Arctic Experiences: Aboard the Doomed Polaris Expedition and Six Months Adrift on an Ice-Floe

Arctic Experiences: Aboard the Doomed Polaris Expedition and Six Months Adrift on an Ice-Floe

George E. Tyson

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George E. Tyson : Arctic Experiences: Aboard the Doomed Polaris Expedition and Six Months Adrift on an Ice-Floe before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Arctic Experiences: Aboard the Doomed Polaris Expedition and Six Months Adrift on an Ice-Floe:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Vanishing Margin of Survival...By HMS Warspite"Arctic

"Arctic Experiences" is a nicely-packaged 2002 reprint of an account of the 1871 American North Polar Expedition, based on the diary of one of its officers, Captain George E. Tyson. This edition includes extracts from the official inquiry into the expedition, which lost its leader and its vessel, and scattered its survivors. Nineteenth-century Arctic expeditions often have the compelling aura associated with major traffic accidents viewed in slow motion, as poor decisions and human failings lead to sometimes horrific endings. Tyson's surprisingly readable 1874 account has that quality. His first chapter sets the status of Arctic exploration in his time, especially the hunt for the Northwest Passage and the missing Franklin expedition. Tyson introduces Charles Hall of Ohio, self-made Arctic explorer, who was chosen to head up the 1871 expedition to find the so-called Polar Sea and the North Pole. Hall was unfortunate in his choice of crew; dissension broke out early in the voyage. Deep in the Arctic, Hall mysteriously became ill and died; his ranking subordinate promptly attempted a retreat. Their vessel, the *Polaris*, became frozen in the ice; an unfortunate chain of events led to the stranding of 19 persons on an ice floe. Tyson's diary tells their harrowing struggle for survival. A later chapter gives the fate of the 14 crewmembers aboard the foundering *Polaris*. Notably, Tyson's diary gives full credit to the conduct of the Inuit members of the expedition. A modern introduction frames the current perspective on the expedition, including the fact that Hall likely died of arsenic poisoning and the unproven possibility that he was deliberately poisoned. "Arctic Experiences" is highly recommended to readers fascinated by Arctic exploration; Tyson's account has been out of print for over 100 years. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great account of survival in the Arctic. By Whippoorwill A great account of survival in the Arctic. Tyson's self control, leadership, and clear headed thinking are shown during his six months on an ice flow. Anyone reading arctic explorers will find this book a great addition to your library.

The *Polaris* expedition to the North Pole, the first such journey led by Americans, mixed groundbreaking achievements with harrowing disasters. Veteran sailor of the North Seas George Tyson joined the expedition when it set out in 1871, and kept a detailed record of the remarkable events that occurred on board the ship. Tyson's journal relates the mysterious death of the expedition's leader, Captain Charles Francis Hall, and the ship's entrapment in arctic ice. The bulk of Tyson's book concerns the months he spent with nineteen fellow crew-members stuck on a broad chunk of ice that broke away from the *Polaris* and drifted out into the sea. Tyson tells of his life with Eskimos and his daily struggle to survive in subzero temperatures, each day wondering if he would make it back to America.

From Library Journal Publishers are suddenly gaga for survivor and exploration adventure stories, and this combines both. Tyson was among the crew of the *Polaris*, which carried the first American expedition to the Arctic in 1871. The bark's captain took ill and died, and the ship eventually became icebound. While 19 crew members were out on the ice, a sudden gale wrenched the ship free, stranding them. The men spent the next six months floating more than 1500 miles on a broad sheet of ice before being rescued. Tyson released his firsthand account of the incredible incident in 1874. Copyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc. Republication of this almost forgotten book is long overdue. (Chauncey C. Loomis, author of *Weird and Tragic Shores: The Story of Charles Francis Hall, Explorer*) [Tyson's] is a remarkable and compelling account of the series of adventures and misadventures collectively known as the *Polaris* expedition. (Edward E. Leslie, author of *Desperate Journeys, Abandoned Souls: True Stories of Castaways and other Survivors*) About the Author George E. Tyson (1829-1906) spent 196 days adrift at sea. His memoir was originally published in 1874. He served as captain of a schooner in a subsequent arctic expedition in 1877. Edward E. Leslie, author of *Desperate Journeys, Abandoned Souls: True Stories of Castaways and Other Survivors*, lives in Ohio.