Bartlett 1942

162959

RECORD

Expedition to Frobisher Bay, Baffin Land

Capt. R. A. Bartlett

1942

acc. 162959

50177

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A
B
C

Specimens for the Smithsonian Institute collected aboard the Morrissey in 1942 by Dr E. C. Rigby, Harvard Club, Boston.

July 27, 1942

#1. Specimen came up on anchor from 7 fathoms, at low tide. Water temp. 31.5° F; weather - clear, north wind. Drift ice in the water all around. Lat. 63°, 18' 00" North approx.
Long. 68° 05' 00' West
Frobisher Bay, around Fletcher Island
Rocky coast - from S.E. shore.

#2. July 28, 1942 -
Specimen of mud from anchor off NW shore of an island located in the harbor of Crystal 2, an Army Base in Frobisher Bay about 2 mi. NNW of above position. Temp. of water was 31.5°F. - Depth ranged from 10-15 Fathoms - Tide was low. Tide has been breaking ice up, at the head end of the Bay - NW of our position, and it is swept by us in one direction for 6 hr., then in the other for 6 hr - everytime the tide changes, most of it is going

out, however, and lately it has been breaking up rapidly. It has been cloudy most of the day

D
E
F

3 - July 29 - a.m.

Pull off anchor at 3/4 low tide; weather cloudy. Temp. of water 31°. Anchored in a cove 3 mi. S.E. of above position, on the SW shore of a glacial morain; to the left of this, a small stream heads coming down; there were several others, but they seemed to be coming off snow-banks. 13 fathoms at low tide. Moon is full so tides are maximum. Coast is very rocky in places other than the morain.

#4 Jim. The contents of this jar are from the Dredge. Other bottles of personal samples in this box are all of those we taken on cours and in the keys Islands in Florida Bay; Bottom sand. Mostly where the Long Stream of Kelp was fastened to the Bottom. The bottom was mostly of small pebbles; and sand, and mud, and large stones. The water temp. around 31° to 32° F No Ice. Sometimes a small River, Ran into the cove where we were anchored. We used the plankton nets. Whilst the water abounded in small jelly fish and once in another, a Big medusa was seen, we could not seem to be able to get the small jelly fish in the plankton nets. The depth of water where we used the dredge was 20 to 3 from Feet. The range of tide 20 to 25 feet, and its strength of 30 feet. Sometimes strong current, but more often quiet water.

This the one that Dr. Schmitt says me.

No 5 tube contains much of
same things as # 4 and taken
near the same Position; that is,
Corrs, where we anchored.
The dredging was done from a
Boat; also the Boat rowed late
out the dredge then it was hauled
in by hand. to the MORRISEY The Sponges that Dr.
Schmitt found we use the one we
used. The Red Algae ON OFFICER. was on
a very long stem; and was the colour
of wine. Number is it the "Rhodymenia"
I used a small scrapnel over the side
and dragged it up ON DECK going through it for specimens. It is in the Jar No 4.
and No 5. I made a few feet of it in
Coloured films. Then WE had the Brown
Celp; long narrow leaves OF FRONDS Also the White
Cedar; forth tube in it. The great
difficulty in using the dredge or
that Celp Bottom is; that, the dredge
cannot sink through; and Bite into
the Bottom. All in No 4 & 5 put up, in 40% Formalin
Formalin 16 gals.
The 3 tubes 4. 5. 6. were soldered on
Sept 8/42. No 4 & 5 tubes were filled from
Aug 31. to Sept 9th. We were so busy, that
I had to do most of it myself. The Officer was
mostly engaged in Surveying, Sounding, and
Charting.

No 6. This Contains All Dredge that was gathered in Dr Schmitto Dredge the one the Day Was. This Was done in a Small Cove on the South Shore of KNEELAND Bay. an Arm along the West Side of Frobisher Bay; Baffin Land, Just by from Cornwallis Island. I threw over the Dredge in 25 fms water. was veered out 50 to 60 fms Rope and Stopped the engine letting her come in to anchorage S. E. Shoaled to 13 fms. then got deeper going to 20 fms. and again Shoaler; we anchored in 12 fms. The water rises and falls in ordinary tide 15 to 20 feet. When we anchored I had all hands bail on to the Dredge line Slowly hauling it in to the Ship; when it came up; there was about a half flour Barrel of mud. we then Washed the Sieve; and strained Some through the Cheese Cloth that Dr. Schmitto Saw Was. we got about 3 Pails of Pebbles. the Rest is in the Sieve. The water was about 32.5 F. very fairly Large Streams of Water Its Source from the Melting of the Snow and from the Ice Cap. they empting into the the Cove. A one to 1½ knot current runs through this Cove. Water is 5 to 10 fms deep D.L.W. Whilst anchored there saw a few Bay Seal that is the Ringed Seal. Also White Whales first time we saw the white Whales was in the Bottom of the Bay about 5 Miles in.

It was excellent holding ground. Our anchor held well; no ice about. Lots of Jelly fish; from the little Black Copelford that flaps its wings; and the same that is called the "Black Berry" by the fisher-men on the Labrador; when they catch the codfish in the early Summer, in their Cod traps. to the Big Jelly fish. I saw one; passing along by the stiff breeze at anchor in this Cove; for a J
hole of it, by using a fish Jigger. I K
lassoed it; but that means losing streamers L
attached. Broke loose, and the current running; it got away from me. It was a wine coloured Red. about of a big lump; it appeared to me it seemed as if it would fill a Barrel. The Bottom of this Cove, did not know the depth; same as amongst the Islands in the Bay no doubt about it; lived one, the time; and free to do, and go when he pleased; he could bring a lot of rich stuff out of this Bay. It is food stuff like herrings Labrador. There are many Schools of in this Bay the Harp Seal. GREENLAND SEAL. I not think they Catch any trout worth while in the Rivers. I saw NONE at the Mouth. Evidently the catch of crustacea; Jelly fish, Starfish, and Polar Cod. Sea Worms; Sculpins, and Schrimps; also the Rock Cunners, and various Ele-

The Ringed Seal and the Rat Weasel
seen there in the month of the Explorer
Gerald and Jordan Reid. The Walrus
which they followed in the Bay the
Great Greenfield Ice broke from off
San Diego Ice bank Floes
of the Tundras of the Far East and the
Harp Greenland Seal that in March Breed
N.E. of Belle Island off Southern Labrador and
Northern Newfoundland mouth of Belle Isle
Strait these same Seals old and young
Bear Cubs long after the Whelping ice
has broken off Southward South of the Straits
of Newfoundland, to the Fiords of Baffin
Land, and Southern Ellesmere Land. These
Just eat a lot of Bottom Stuff. That live on the Floor of the
FIORDS. Now I saw them in FROBISHER
Bay; CUMBERLAND GULF. and the Bays
and Inlets from the Lates to POND'S INLET through
Navy Board Admiralty Inlet through LANCASTER
SOUND on the JONES SOUND and the Inlets
Northward to Cape Sabine. Ellesmere Land.
To feed these great vast hordes of Seals
over a period of several months must take
a big toll from the Sea Floor and waters.
Many of the Stomachs of these Seals
have not in the past brought back to
Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt. With the changes
in things for Bears what will these do to
the Fauna of the Land and the sea and
the feathered tribes? War Surely is hell
and war is only beginning God help us.

No 7 The Contents of this small Bottle was taken from the Whale Boat when U-boat filling the Casks with fresh water, off the Labrador Coast. The Boat steaming the Current The Silvia Skinner River. Frobisher Bay. Baffin Land September 8/42

No 8 Bottle contains 10 Stomachs of trout taken in a net (Bill) The nets were put out late afternoon and feated all night until 6 am next day when off loaded by Sept 9th. The Natives have caught in nets and speared some 300 lbs. Sport. Right where this net was is where the Boat filled the Casks with fresh water. Temp quite 42 F.

No 9 Plankton Bottle. Net Put out Just at dark 7.00 PM when we anchored in 17 fm water soft bottom sand & mud Perhaps Breach reef. It was at the S.W. end of Daniel Island. Frobisher Bay. Baffin Land. Sept 9/42. The Tide was Slack water; also just beginning to Ebb fresh N.W. Wind. Crow Flurries. A Natural Tide or Strait separates the Island from the mainland water 32.5. It was H.W. Just ebbing when the net was

M
N
O
P

6.00 am Beginning Ebb tide
Sept-10th darkness following 8 & 9 hours.

hauled and Contents put in Bottle No 9. (Small) Newell Sound is at the North end of the Tickle and the Harbour where we are Anchored runs in from Cape Vanderbilt for 8 to 10 miles. No doubt there are tides when large herds of seals pass through the tickle going north and coming South. Net fished 13 hours, and fresh to rare N.W. winds throughout.

No. 10. Plankton haul from 6 am. to 12.30 am. Same place as No 9. Ship Anchored Snowing all morning. Wind blew hard from N.W. up to 10 am. the rest of time to haul almost Calm Setting toward Low Water. This haul ran all through the falling water. L.L.W. depth where we are Anchored 13 fathoms at H.W. 17½. Water temp 32.5F.

No 11 12.30 pm to 6 pm Net out and fishing part time Strong N.W. wind and Snow! Ebb tide finished and Westerly am. Slack water to 2 pm Net did not fish well later Part of Ebb tide not until just before we cleaned it out which was 6½ when we put it out. Same place as 9.10.

No 12. Plankton net out from 6 pm Sept 10th to 6 am Sept 11th. water 32F Strong N.W wind at times more often winds fresh. H.W. beginning flood 1.30 pm H.W among 7.30 pm

No 13 Plankton Net Put out and fished
over the same period of time as No 12
Same place as yesterday Sept-10/42 and
from the stern of Schooner, until 5 P.M. anchored
darkness and fishing tools mostly about 5
hours of flood. New Moon 15h. 53m. G.C.T.
Sept 10th. 10 A.M. Ships time. Lat of the place where
anchored. approx. 63.10.00" N. Long 67.45.00 W.

Plankton Net No 14. Down from 6 Am. to 7 Am
Ditto " No 15 Ditto.
Same place as No 13 and pretty near
Same Conditions. Contents of two NETS
from Stern of "Morrissey" During time she was at anchor.

No 16 Leaving our Anchorage in Daniels Harbour
Put overboard Dredge. Using Dr Schmitts.
Water 32 F. Toward for a few hundred yards,
Until we got in deep water. Had out 60 fms
drag Line. Stopped Ship. Hauled in Dredge
by hand, The Contents of this JAR No. 16. SO ARE the contents of Dredge R
or findings. We picked out alot of KELP that was in S
Dredge; all of which we put in ONE
5 Gall Gasoline-tins; using as a fixative
4%-40% Formaldehyde. In Bottle # 16. Used Alcohol
Stone, Taim. Sept 11/42 Same place as # 13.
We did not have any Kelp on Anchor when
it was sighted. This Tin is Numbered No. 16A

No 17 Kneeland Bay — Frobisher Bay.
Baffin Land.
Latitude approx 63.05.10 N Long 67.26.00 W.
Coming to an Anchor close to a small Island which joins the mainland, by a narrow Tickle; which Tickle, dries at L. Water. We Put down Dredge in 30 fms; and paid out 60 fms Line. The Ship towing it for a Short distance. We anchored in 16 fms of water. H.W. at the time. And at L.W. it was 11 fms. This was around 10.30 AM. Sept 11th. The Tide was Dead Low; around 2 Pm. 3.30 PM. We got underway, and steamed out from Anchorage; then let-her drift, and when in deep water, hauled in the Dredge. We have dredged, before in this Bay; but on the South side, in same depth of water; but did not get such a variety as we in Jan* 17. within a few feet of the Island at D.L.W. there was 5 fms. And the Kelp lay all along the Island made of it at D.L.W. around. The Small Bottle no 18. belongs to the Dredge Haul of no 17. It is the washing out of Sediment cloth in Bottom of the Dredge.

No 19. The Contents of this Jar is from a Dredge Haul in 7 to 12 fms of water Tide 3/4 flood. at D.L.W The School carries but 2 1/2 fms of water. It stands about a mile off Shore, in the mouth

Frobisher Bay
Baffin Land.

of Kneeland Bay. This Shoal Spot was discovered accidentally by the Fathometer, aboard "Bear." It is really a Pinnacle Rock; Around the PINNACLE there is a depth of 7 to 12 fms. then it drops down to 20 fms; and quickly to 100 fms. The Shoal Spot is about a quarter of an acre. Kelp can be seen at L.W. the top of the Rocks floating. Lat of this Place approx 63.04.30 N. and Long 67.24.00 W. Temp of water 33F
By Pm Sept. 11th 1942.

Dredge used Dr. Schmitts. So much Kelp its difficult for it to bite into Bottom. The Long Kelp is like a Rubber Mattress. The top of this Shoal is Smooth Rock. One would think the drift ice would have cleaned off the Kelp. Evidently the Bay ice which would be thin when it breaks up goes out to sea. I dont think the heavy drift ice that comes down the coast from the north gets in so far.

X 20 Plankton Hauls. Net Wire 3 hauls made; 20 minutes each. Sammy Bartlett held the Plankton NET in his hand wading in the River; water was about 2½ to 3 feet deep (and Flowing out of the Sybl Spinnell River. Water fresh) So that a person could drink it. This was at low tide. and Ran out near to the mouth of River.
Sept 13/42.

No 21. This Bottle contains all that
was in the Dredge. It was towed by
the motor Boat Cleaning Slowly Ahead in
the River, and on Salt or Brackish Water. The water time
33 F. no ice in River. dead low water at this time
and from 5 to 10 feet deep. The Plankton net
No. 20; was used at times not for ground
the Boat. But it was in Brackish water. For the most
part the NET
1 Was used in fresh water. PERHAPS Where DREDGE
had been towed fresher water may have been drawn down.
THERE
1 was no Kelp nor Algae of any Sort. The Stones had sand
been washed down by the Swift Current
and Ice, Earlier in the Season. Sept. 13 '42

Contains
No 22. In this Small Jar. Sand; from
the Bottom of the Canvas Cloth Bag;
that was had Sewn inside of the
meshed net of Dr. Waldo L. Schmitt. DREDGE
was about the 1/2 of a 5 Gall. Tin LEFT,
this was put through a Sieve of Copper FINE mesh
that Dr L Schmitt sent us; When it was
washed; there was left some Pebbles; but it
seemed to me that there was still much
sand left; So I left it in the Jar.
It was so to Dr. Schmitt. This was made
over the same Ground as that #21 was
taken from. "The mouth of the Sylvia Spinnell
River, Dredge, down the River, and over a
distance of a mile. It was made for

the most part in Brackish Water. The water, or the Tide, was dead low. And this occurred two days after the NEW MOON. Naturally, a very low tide would result. The Sand in Jar 22. and the Sand in Ball in Number 22.A. was taken in the same Dredge. And is the Sand, mud, Gravel, etc. from the Banks of the River. The River by the way is navigable to the Falls only at H.W. The Falls are but 18 to 20 feet high at Spring tide and Top high water at a depth of 20 feet with the tide at a distance of One mile from the mouth. And too; the River ordinarily is narrow but a few yards wide. In the Spring when the melting goes on and it overflows its Banks there then is much water spread over. The Delta has at low water acres and acres of Sand and Gravel and Boulders dried out.

22A - Bried + cans because Rem-ovable to jars once used Feb. 1946.

No 23. The Contents of this Jar was obtained from the Plankton Net towed from Motor Boat during High Water Spring. The Boat towed the net slowly up the River from its mouth and is about One mile to the Falls. Being H.W. at the time very little current was met with and on getting to the Falls which are 18 to 20 feet High the tide was almost level with the Falls. Beyond it was not navigable for Motor Boat Soundings were made.

by using Hand Lead and 18 feet depth of water was observed. The Net was shot during the time the Motor Boat lie and off the River. Surface Water Temp. was made and 36.5 F obtained this at the falls and out to the mouth of River 9 feet sure we had fresh water at the time throughout. The time consumed was a few minutes short of the hour and the distance two miles. September 13th/42 The mouth of The Sylvia Grinnell River. Frobisher Bay. Baffin Land.

No 24 Is the Contents of ~~one~~ two haul of the Dredge in 11 fms to 25 fms of water. However it was mostly done in water at a depth of 11 to 16 fms. Dredge down for one half hour; Motor Boat towing the Dredge slowly 60 fms of line attached to the Dredge and was the one that Dr Schmitt loaned us. Bottom for the most part Coral, Stones, Small Rocks and Much Kelp. at no time did the Dredge foul the Bottom. The Kelp filling up the mouth of Dredge perhaps spoiled getting a richer haul or more variety. and too with the long tough strings of Kelp fastened to the Bottom it was difficult to get

the Dredge to bite in to the Bottom. The Dredging was done Mostly Around Islands and Shallows places in a Bight not far from the mouth of the Sylvia Espenwell River Frobisher Bay. Baffin Land. The Tide was about 3/4s down when we finished and when we began Dredging; the water was near about 1/2 flow. Rise and fall of water was on a Ordinary Spring tides 25 feet. and at Springs 30 feet. It was Top High water when we began and the wind was N.E. fresh. Slyfoowcast. There is no Root much Fauna at the Bottom Amongst the Kelp. Many many Seals of the Greenland Seal are Seen. Besides the Ringed Harbour Square Flippers. and Little Hor Rat. Also White Whales. The two hauls were made in the Same Section and Dredge down for one half hour each time. that is one hour for the two hauls. Cpt. in the Fo-

~~No 25~~

No 25 Sept 18th. 1942. 4 P.M. anchored in the Narrows. Lat 63°.27'.00"N Approx Long 67°.55'.00"W Approx Frobisher Bay. Baffin Land

Contents of Draft. Which was let down for a few minutes first in 6 fms. of water. H.W. SW. 3 FMS. On the top of a shoal. and a short distance to the West it dropped to 130 fms in shore to the Island 20 to 15 fms lots of kelp. the Narrow place is a field of kelp on the floor of the Strait. Strong Currents up to 6 knots sweep through the place. lots of seals schools of them they are the migrants the Greenland Seal. Intended to use Sow net but overlooked it. so many things doing.

Temp of water 32.5F.

No 24. Contents of Dredge same as in No. 25. Not many Animals in this Bottle the major Portion Wint in No 25.

No 27 Plankton Haul. Below Narrows.
The net was only out for a few minutes.
this was made afternoon Sept 18th, 1942.
In deep water about a 3 knots Current.
No far from where Dredge was
used No 25 and 26 Bottles.

Number 28. No Number in Tin

No 28 In this tin which was soldered before I could put the number inside. Contains the results of two hauls by the Dredge, made in Motor Boat number 2. Also used the Plankton Net during the time dredge was down. It was hauled up after being down for a half hour and the contents of the haul put in a tin on the Boat. The tide was low but rising again the dredge was put down and towed by Motor Boat. The tide was about 3 ft's up. The Dredge fished for ½ hour in 16 to 25 fms of water bottom for the most part and around an Island one of a group near the Narrows and in Frobisher Bay. Baffin Land. Much kelp, so much so, it is difficult to keep the damn stuff from jamming up the mouth of Dredge. We see no Birds about. But the schools of Harp seals are numerous. At times; more so, when Wind comes, the GREENLAND SEAL We get current running strong. today during the time dredge was down: calm. No current worth while, save for the ebb and flood which is from 1 to 1½ knots that is the normal strength. Hauls made Sept 19th. 1922.

No 29 2 Plankton Net-Hauls made from Motor Boat during the time the Dragger was fishing. Surface water 32F this was made same place and around Islands in Frobisher Bay. Sept 19th 1942.

No 30 Made same place, and time, from Motor Boat. Same as No 29.

No 31 "Morrissey" Anchored in a small Harbour, amongst the Group of Islands, near the Narrows. Lat 63.24.00 N. Long 67.52.00 W. Approx. At-Low Water, the mouth of the Harbour has many small Islets, all of which are covered at H.W. Low water many of them show; and the S.W. end of the Harbour has Islets covered at H.W.; and exposed at L.W. a current flows through the Harbour. So, I ran long or more, I used the Plankton Net, FISHED FROM STERN. and the results of it are in Bottle No 31. Sept. 19th 1942. The water seems filled with copepods and shrimp, also small Jelly fish. Water temp. was 32F. Calm, fine, and clear. Net fished at the strongest current which was Rising Water. I should say here 3/4 of a Knot.

No 32 A Trout's Stomach taken from a Net - Sylvia Grinnell River. The trout had pretty nearly migrated to the Lakes. This fellow was a Straggler. Sep 17/42.

No 37. Plankton net Put out - Just as the Ebb Current Came Strong. The water was filled with Torpedos. Small Jelly fish. It seemed to me there Several Kinds. I maneuvered the net So as to try and get them Bad they were difficult to get to go in the net net was down for 2 hours then the current slackened So I took it in. The net fished for about 3 fathoms. From the surface the water this afternoon seemed to me to be unusually Clear. The great lot of life moving with Ebb Current lasted about one half hour. Then it became scarce. Still there were lots of it floating by. Anchored in same place as number 31 same date but from 3 to 5 PM fishing. Calm, Cloudy. Water temp 52 F.

No 33. Coming On dawn Hauled Plankton Net f. It was out from 7 pm to around 4 am. Tide was well down and beginning to turn flood when it was put out around 2 am of the 20th. High water and beginning to Ebb Net must have capsized as it was that way when I hauled it up. Showing just. wind N.E. moderate. tide 1/4 Ebb. water 31.5 F. Apl-20/42

No 34 and 35 2 Plankton Hauls same place as above 2 hrs down for about 10 minutes Burst of flood flow just filling commencing to ebb Apl-20th/42

36 At the mouth of a little Stream which is fresh water but when the contents of the bottle were poured into the Boat was filling with water for drinking. Thanks little auntie Cacho bottle food Gotten in Salt water by dipping them off in a Bucket. Thus the Bake-Apple-Blight leaf 54.29.00 Long 51.10.00 W. near Smokey Tickle Labrador where the Radio Intercepts.

B. 162/959

10

No 5. Is the Jark containing Alcohol. Put a number of trout stomachs from the Jordan River. Frobisher Bay. Baffin Land The trout were caught in the net long in the River. also the two trout in the tank were caught about a number of others in the same net. and put the stomachs in a tin and later put them in the tank This was July 29th. 1942.

Dr. Schmitt's Draft landed in Bergen on our way home This was done by [illegible]

In No 2 Chest are a number of the Small Bottles not filled. Instead of filling them we put the contents of the drawer labels in 5 Sales Jars and they are marked or numbered and too there are a few Big Bottles that do not have any reference numbers for the Record Book But all the material Dr Vas Gave Come from Frobisher Bay Baffin Land.

R. A. Cordell
Sales Manager 1942 Exp