

the polar region toward the Asiatic side, steer our balloon toward the American continent. This part of the world is not now nearly so desolate and uninhabited as it was when the Franklin expedition perished. Ever since 1889, American vessels have been stationed about the mouth of the Mackenzie River for hunting purposes, and twelve to fifteen ships pass the winter there with 400 or 500 people aboard. The speaker had got these particulars of a Swedish harpooner, Bertoni, who has been a long time in American service there. Along the coast of Alaska are to be found more or less civilized Indians and Esquimaux. In the interior of Alaska there are a great number of gold diggers. Among the inhabitants of these vast regions information concerning the expedition is pretty widely spread, although, strangely enough, the circulars with cut of balloon have not here been distributed.

The speaker concluded with expressing his firm conviction that the outlook for the expedition is as good if not better this year than the last.

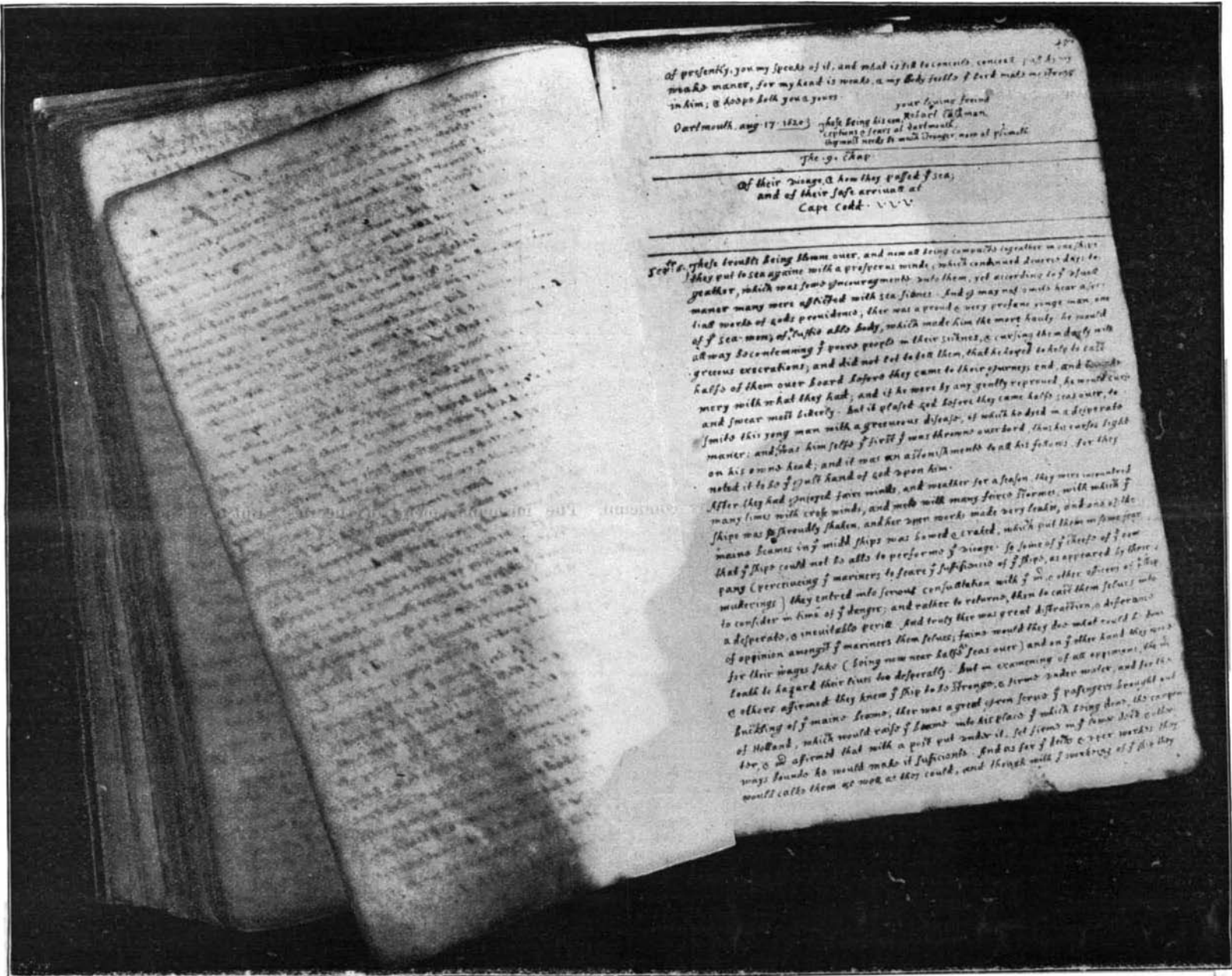
After Mr. Andree's lecture, Dr. Jaderin, the astronomer, arose and demonstrated before the society a very valuable improvement on the usual sextant, enabling

members of that devoted band which set forth into the unknown for conscience' sake, and subsequently governor of Plymouth Colony, and within its pages were recorded the names of all the pilgrims and the chief incidents of their voyage and ultimate landing at Cape Cod. But the log of the Mayflower did not end with the voyage. Its narrative was continued as a history of the formation of the first settlement at New Plymouth, and of the general colonization work of the next twenty-eight years. The inclusion of an official register of baptisms, marriages and funerals added a legal importance to the historical value of this authoritative account of the origin of New England. It was probably due to this circumstance that the volume was some time or another sent to the library of Fulham Palace, for up to the time of the Declaration of Independence the American colonies, strangely enough, formed part of the diocese of London. Nothing is definitely known, however, of the transference of this valuable document from the new country to the old beyond the fact that it has been stored at Fulham Palace with other archives of the diocese of London. But at last the historic log is to be restored to the cou-

for their Puritan brethren. And, seeing that the new Boston claims to be "the hub of the universe," optimists may detect great significance in the generous surrender of what, to Bostonians even more than to Great Britain, is a precious historical record and anti-quarian treasure.

The little village of Scrooby, on the borders of Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, where Brewster lived and taught lessons in freedom to Bradford and other brave souls, has been denominated "the cradle of Massachusetts." And if so, why not "the cradle of the American nation"?

The traveler on the Great Northern Railway from London may catch a glimpse of the slim white spire of Scrooby church on his left ere he reaches Doncaster. Visitors from Massachusetts know it well. There are two shrines that the enthusiastic American tourist never misses. One is Stratford-on-Avon; the other, Brewster's old manor house at Scrooby, with the neighboring village of Austerfield, where William Bradford first saw the light. There is, indeed, comparatively little left of the structure that was familiar to the secret worshippers of Brewster's day. One of



THE LOG OF THE MAYFLOWER—FACSIMILE OF THE BOOK.

the observer to make careful determinations even if he is oscillating and above the ground as when he is sitting in the car of a balloon. Dr. Jaderin calls his instrument "nivaxestant" (the level sextant), and experiments have shown the error to amount to only about 2'.

Dr. Nils Ekholm will not accompany Mr. Andree. He has backed out, as he does not consider the undertaking likely to succeed. The party will now consist of Mr. Andree, chief engineer (ofveringenior) at the Royal Swedish Patent Office, Mr. Strindberg, amanuensis at the University of Stockholm, and lastly Mr. Fraenckel, civil engineer.

THE LOG OF THE MAYFLOWER.

A graceful act of international courtesy on the part of the Consistory Court of London has drawn attention to the remarkable history of a manuscript volume which is essentially one of the most precious heirlooms of the American nation, although it has long been stored in English keeping. The Pilgrim Fathers who left their native land on board the Mayflower in 1620 bequeathed to their children a detailed chronicle of all their doings in the form of a manuscript book, entitled "The Log of the Mayflower." This volume, destined to acquire a unique importance as an historical document, was compiled by William Bradford, one of the foremost

monwealth of whose earliest beginnings it forms so precious a relic. At the application of the United States ambassador, the Consistory Court of London has decided, with the approval of the bishop, to hand over the volume to the President of the United States, zincographic copies being kept for the diocesan registry and the episcopal library at Fulham Palace.

This decision naturally recalls the tender solicitude with which everything associated with the sailing of the Pilgrim Fathers is regarded by all true Americans. Anti-British politicians may do their utmost to prevent the tightening of the bonds of friendship which should unite the two great English-speaking peoples, but there will still remain a huge section of new world inhabitants actuated by feelings of keenest admiration and deepest sympathy for the old mother country. The State of Massachusetts is especially interested in the present act of courtesy. It was a vicar of Boston in Lincolnshire who practically founded the chief city of Massachusetts. Several of the earliest governors of Massachusetts hailed from the Lincolnshire Boston. Governor Bellingham, whose character is sketched in "The Scarlet Letter," was recorder of the old England town. William Brewster, chief of the Pilgrim Fathers, and William Bradford, who kept the log of the Mayflower, both suffered imprisonment at Boston before they managed to find a way of escape

the few old oak beams remaining has already been secured by an enterprising descendant of the Pilgrim Fathers to adorn his dwelling across the seas, and, bit by bit, other memorials of the past are finding their way over the Atlantic to keep alive the feeling of kinship between New England and the old. The Norman font at which William Bradford was baptized still occupies a place in Austerfield church, and the parish register contains Bradford's baptismal entry. This quaint old edifice sadly needs restoration; and Americans, in particular, are being invited to contribute to the fund. So far, their response is not encouraging, nevertheless the church wardens intend to retain the font. As the Earl of Crewe writes in his appeal on behalf of the memorial fund, Austerfield is linked with Scrooby, the home of Brewster, as a cradle of the Pilgrim Fathers; and so long as the sailing of the Mayflower remains one of the historic cameos upon which English and American eyes alike love to rest, the footsteps of travelers will turn toward these quiet little hamlets in reverence for the men who embarked on an even nobler quest than did the fleet of Columbus.—Illustrated London News.

ICHTHYOL is recommended by Der Stein der Weisen as a much better remedy for insect bites than ammonia