

Shortly afterwards, Leffingwell interrupted his studies to serve the United States Navy as a seaman during the 1898 Spanish–American War. As a gunner on the battleship USS *Oregon*, he participated in the decisive naval victory at Santiago de Cuba.

We learn how Leffingwell began his Arctic journey at the age of 26 when he was employed as chief scientific officer on the chaotic 1901 Baldwin–Ziegler North Pole Expedition, but it was the northern coastal region of Alaska that would be the theatre of Leffingwell’s greatest achievements between 1906 and 1914.

The coastline had originally been delineated by Sir John Franklin in 1826 during his second overland Arctic expedition. While Franklin had descended the Mackenzie River and “hastily traversed” the coast in two small boats, Leffingwell performed his geodesic survey with an almost obsessive zeal, repeatedly rechecking his measurements and achieving a level of accuracy that many today would find astonishing.

He also produced remarkably detailed geographical and geological maps of around 5000 square miles of the hinterland—a pristine wilderness to this day, it forms the core of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. His explanations of permafrost landforms and processes remain authoritative. Sometimes Leffingwell worked with fellow scientists such as Ejnar Mikkelsen, sometime with the company and assistance of local Inupiaq. At other times he travelled and worked in the most desolate and remote terrain with only his dogs for company.

The main body of the book deals with his Arctic career, and eloquently conveys the tremendous drive, dedication, discipline, and courage of Leffingwell the explorer-scientist. This left me wanting to know more about his personality; other than a few nuggets such as his devotion to his dogs and the fact that he could occasionally lose his temper, the account is largely blank in this regard. This void is filled however, in the account of his post-Arctic life, in particular by the extracts from the tender and gently humorous letters written to his future wife Anna.

While others sought glory or courted publicity in order to raise funds for their expeditions, Leffingwell was driven by a single-minded quest for scientific achievement. From a wealthy background, he financed his work largely from private family resources, and this, together with his focus on solely professional publication of his findings, conspired to keep him in the shadows compared with the more showy luminaries of the era.

I noticed one small mistake, presumably arising from a mistranscription of Leffingwell’s journal. The author reports that, during the Baldwin–Ziegler expedition, Leffingwell read Sir George Back’s account of his river journey to the Arctic sea but misidentifies the Canadian river in question as the Firth River in Yukon, when it must surely be the Fish River, now the Back River of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

The cover is an attractive composition with the subject standing in thoughtful pose, dressed in furs and cradling

a shotgun. The *America*, the converted whaler that carried him on the Baldwin–Ziegler Expedition, forms the background, with a dog-sled team in between.

The book is well furnished with maps, but, as is very often the case, these can only serve as a taster, because of the constraints of the page size. Fortunately, large-scale images of Leffingwell’s superb cartography can be easily found on the website of the United States Geological Survey, along with the full text of his master work, “The Canning River Region, Northern Alaska” (Professional Paper 109, 1919). I found that the pleasure of reading this book was enhanced by having the full-sized maps on the screen in front of me.

In summary, this is a well-written account of an interesting and significant figure of the era, which has been called the Heroic Age of Polar Exploration.

The name of Ernest de Koven Leffingwell deserves to be better known. Janet R. Collins’s biography *On the Arctic Frontier* will go a long way towards achieving that end. This book should appeal to enthusiasts of early twentieth-century polar exploration and earth sciences, as well as to the more general audience who may be inspired by the achievements of a dedicated and resourceful individual.

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IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ABRAHAM ULRIKAB. By FRANCE RIVET. Gatineau, Quebec: Polar Horizons, 2014. 278 p., maps, b&w illus., appendices, bib., index. Softbound. Cdn\$29.95.

Rivet’s book provides a comprehensive summary of the tragic story of Abraham Ulrikab and his family, pulled together from a variety of archival sources and presented in a very accessible format. Her goal was not only to present the details of the story, but also to uncover new information regarding what happened afterwards, in the hope of assisting with repatriation efforts for Nunatsiavut, the Inuit territory of Labrador.

In the late 1800s, German exotic animal merchant and menagerie owner Carl Hagenbeck began to include humans in what he referred to as “ethnographic exhibitions.” In 1877 he hired a Norwegian sailor, Johan Adrian Jacobson, to recruit Inuit from Greenland to participate in one of these exhibitions, and a family of six joined him on the voyage. They participated in a successful traveling exhibition that visited seven cities in Europe before returning home to Greenland in 1878. Following this success, Hagenbeck and Jacobson decided they needed to recruit more Inuit, only this time the Danish government refused to allow it based on the repercussions of the previous family’s voyage. Other authors have speculated that the government felt the trip had negatively affected the family, by returning with

too many riches, sharing tales of their adventures, and demonstrating no desire to hunt or provide for themselves (p. 34).

Undeterred, Jacobson turned his attention farther west and, when ice prevented access to communities on Baffin Island, he proceeded south to the Labrador coast, where he stopped in the settlement of Hebron to recruit. The Moravian missionaries were not in favor of his plan and discouraged the converted Inuit from going, so Jacobson decided to try to recruit non-Christian families farther north. Jacobson relied on an interpreter named Abraham to make the journey with him and was impressed by his knowledge and skills. During their recruiting mission in Nachvak, Abraham was convinced by the Hudson's Bay Company post manager to go along with Jacobson in order to pay off his debts. They were also successful in recruiting another family of three before heading back to Hebron to pick up Abraham's family. Thus Abraham (age 35), his wife Ulrike (age 24), their daughters, Sara (age 3) and Maria (9 months old), plus a young bachelor, Tobias (age 20) joined Tigianniak (age 45), his wife Paingu (approximately 50) and their daughter Nuggasak (aged 15) on the journey to Europe.

The group arrived in Hamburg in September 1880, and their exhibition started in Hagenbeck's backyard before moving on to other cities as part of their tour. The exhibition was well received by the public at every stop, and while the families enjoyed the adventure at first, excerpts from Abraham's journal reveal that over time the constant attention proved quite taxing. The journey went reasonably well until 12 December when Nuggasak fell ill, passing away on the 14th; mere weeks later her mother Paingu fell ill and passed away with similar symptoms, as did young Sara before the year ended. Smallpox was identified as the cause of death, and it was noted that none of the Inuit had been immunized upon their arrival in Hamburg earlier that fall. The remaining Inuit were sent to continue their tour to France and were supposed to be vaccinated upon their arrival in Paris. The inoculations did not work; all remaining Inuit passed away by 16 January 1881. Although the Inuit were recorded as buried in the countries of their passing, Rivet's work reveals that at a later date the bodies were exhumed for study. The latter half of the volume traces what really happened to the individuals and where they might be today.

Although some might be familiar with the generalities of this story, the details that emerge through Rivet's archival research provide rich documentation from a variety of perspectives. It is interesting to read Jacobson's perspectives on an event, followed by Abraham's, and then excerpts from local media, to see the great contrast in how this series of events was represented and interpreted. Rivet does a good job of formatting the text in order to distinguish between the different authors by using different frames around the block quotes; however, this can become confusing at times with so many large sections directly pulled from primary sources.

Overall, the book is very well organized as it walks the reader through the history of events, but the biggest strength is Rivet's work uncovering what happened to the remains of these individuals following their deaths. Archival research is no easy task and navigating documents in English, French, and German would have proved challenging. Yet this work will undoubtedly assist the Inuit of Nunatsiavut with any future repatriation claim.

While I can appreciate wanting the texts to speak for themselves, at times the lengthy block quotes and sections drag on and beg for more concise paraphrasing. This need is particularly evident in the section from the Berlin anthropologist who studied the Inuit while they were alive. More than 20 pages are dedicated to his work, with great detail on their measurements and a large excerpt from one of his speeches, much of which could have been summarized, since the details of his 19th-century study are not relevant to the story Rivet is trying to present today. Another minor, and perhaps nitpicky, weakness relates to the choice of a sans serif font that is difficult to read over long periods of time. Finally, anthropologists and historians might be left wanting, as there is great potential for more of a critical analysis of the primary texts, and instead this book offers more of a journalistic approach in its presentation. That said, this book achieves the goals set out by the author and provides the reader with a lot of information to digest and analyze on their own.

Rivet writes for a general audience, which makes this book very accessible for students, instructors, and the general public. She also provides substantial references to enable researchers focused on this topic to access her sources and dig deeper into the materials should they wish. I would recommend this book for anyone with a general interest in Labrador Inuit history, or more specifically, an interest in the history of human exhibitions, of which this is sadly just one example of many.

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WORLDVIEWS OF THE GREENLANDERS: AN INUIT ARCTIC PERSPECTIVE. By BIRGITTE SONNE. Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press, 2017. 471 p., maps, b&w illus., references, index. Hardbound. US\$65.00.

In this book the author brings together all the relevant sources about the cosmology of the Greenlandic Inuit, comparing Alaskan, Eastern Inuit, and Siberian sources. This work allows access to material that is, for most people, otherwise difficult to access, and it provides valuable new insights. If anybody thought that the Greenlandic