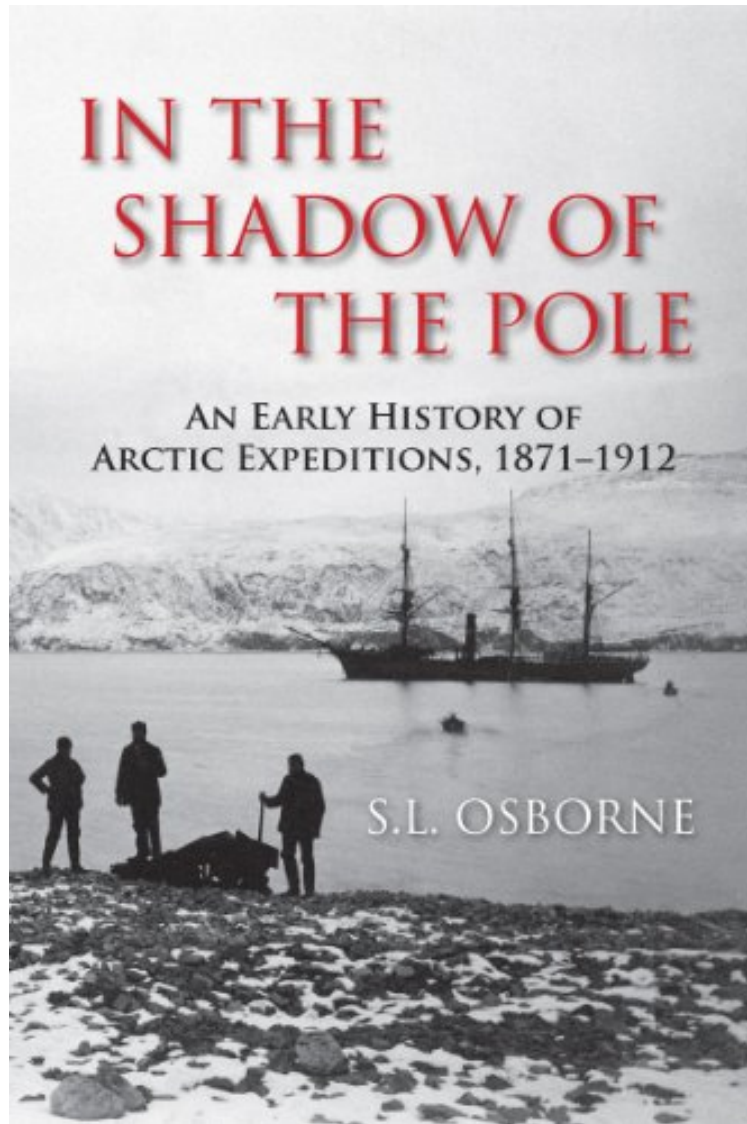


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In the Shadow of the Pole: An Early History of Arctic Expeditions, 1871-1912

S.L. Osborne

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S.L. Osborne : In the Shadow of the Pole: An Early History of Arctic Expeditions, 1871-1912 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised In the Shadow of the Pole: An Early History of Arctic Expeditions, 1871-1912:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent account of an overlooked eraBy David A. JamesAn

exceptionally well written account of a period in Arctic exploration history that generally gets overlooked. At a time when Amundsen was crossing the Northwest Passage and Peary and Cook were racing to the Pole, Canadian explorers were engaged in the more mundane tasks of mapping the Arctic Archipelago and establishing their nation's sovereignty over the northern islands. These are the tales of highly competent men (and one woman) who trekked north and accomplished much for their country with remarkably little loss of life or injury. Osborne is a wonderful storyteller who has researched this history well, and she brings the characters and the world they explored vividly to life. For Arctic history freaks who have scoured numerous volumes on Franklin, Ross, Amundsen, and other famed voyagers and are looking for something new, this book offers an entirely different piece of the story. Kudos to Osborne for her fine work.

In the Shadow of the Pole explains how the Arctic came to be part of Canada. *In the Shadow of the Pole* tells the history of how the Arctic became part of Canada and how the Dominion government established jurisdiction there. It describes the early expeditions to Canadas North, including the little-known Dominion government expeditions to the Subarctic and Arctic carried out between 1884 and 1912. The men on these expeditions conducted scientific research, meteorological studies, geological explorations, and hydrographic surveys. They informed the people they met there of Canadas jurisdiction in the region and raised the flag from Hudson Bay to Ellesmere Island. These men endured as much hardship and adventure as Peary, Nansen, Amundsen, and other famous polar explorers, yet their expeditions were not widely publicized, and they received no glory for their efforts. This book delves into the story of the remarkable Canadian men who led these expeditions.

ably fills a significant gap in modern scholarship of Arctic expeditions. It also makes clear the connection that commerce has had, almost from the beginning, with the ostensibly purer motives of science and sovereignty. (Arcticbookreview.blogspot.ca) Osborne believes that the rich history of the region is yet to be fully documented, and in this book she does a great job of illustrating the monumental challenges faced by the ships and their crews . . . her descriptions of the hardships endured by these men will keep you turning the pages. (Canadas History). . . a fascinating and exceptionally well written work of northern historical scholarship by Canadian author S.L. Osborne. (Fairbanks News-Miner) About the Author S.L. Osbornes masters thesis on Captain Bernier blossomed into an obsession with Canadian Arctic history. She has worked as a freelance writer for various federal government departments and is currently the publications officer at the Ottawa Hospital Foundation. S.L. Osborne lives in Ottawa.