

3 p.m. on the 20th April, we were taken in tow by Her Majesty's steam sloop "Gorgon," off Cape Pillar, blowing fresh from the westward, which gradually increased to a gale, when the towing hawsers carried away upon the 21st, at 1 a.m.; the "Gorgon" remained in company till 10 a.m. of that day, when, being unable to render any further assistance, she ran to leeward, with the intention of falling in with the "Enterprise." At 1 a.m. of the 22d observed a rocket and blue light, but could not distinguish the vessel; answered the signal, expecting at daylight to see her, but was disappointed. From that date to 12th May we experienced nothing but strong westerly gales, with heavy sea, when it began gradually to moderate, varying from S.S.W. to north, with occasional squalls and heavy rain, until the 2d June, in lat. 17 deg. 46 min. S.; long. 105 deg. 54 min. W., it settled into the S.E. trade, drawing to E.N.E. as we passed to the northward of the Equator, which wind has continued until our arrival at this anchorage.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Robert M'Clure*, Commander.

The Senior Naval Officer of Her Majesty's
Ships and Vessels at Oahee.

No. 3.
Proceedings of an
Expedition by the
way of Behring's
Strait.

No. 3 (F.)

COPY of a LETTER from Captain *Collinson*, C.B., to the Secretary of the Admiralty.

Her Majesty's Ship "Enterprise,"
Oahee, 29 June 1850.

Sir,

I AVAILED myself of a vessel sailing to California, to report our arrival here on the 25th instant; and I now take the opportunity of the "Swift" returning to Valparaiso.

On entering the Pacific, owing to the bad weather and mountainous sea, the "Gorgon" could not communicate; and as there was little likelihood her assistance would be of any avail until we reached a more temperate latitude, I signalled her to return to Valparaiso on the 23d April.

A continuation of westerly winds compelled us to pass to the eastward of Juan Fernandez and St. Felix; and not getting the S.E. trade until we reached the 19th degree of south latitude, our passage from Cape Pillar has occupied 65 days.

By the "Swift" I have received their Lordships' despatches, dated in March, together with the Parliamentary Reports and Esquimaux vocabularies; but I regret to add, that the balloons have been left behind, either at Panama, or they have been carried on to California, in the American steam vessel.

Captain Kellet, who sailed from here on the 25th May, has appointed Cape Lisburne as a rendezvous, whither I shall proceed to-morrow, having completed water to 60 days, and provisions.

I am sorry to report that the "Investigator" has not arrived; but as some time will be lost in communicating with the "Plover" and "Herald," there is still a hope that the two vessels may join company previous to entering the ice.

I enclose a copy of the orders I have left for Commander M'Clure, which contain my intentions, as far as I can be guided by the information I have received.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Rd. Collinson*, Captain.