

thoroughly acquainted with the regions he visited, who kept a truthful journal of every event and circumstance at all worthy of record, and who at least had no crotchet or theory to advance or serve. His own opinions are not favourable to the sanguine hopes entertained by many of Sir John Franklin's safety; but the Editor would still draw the attention of the reader to the fact, that if his author is not hopeful, he is not obstinately opposed to the possibility of Franklin's having ascended towards the great Arctic Ocean (if there is one) by way of Wellington Channel or by way of Jones's or Smith's Sound.

Sir Edward Belcher's Expedition will, it is to be hoped, be more successful than that which sailed now three years ago under the command of Captain Austin, and throw some light on the route which was taken by the missing ships after leaving their winter-quarters in Beechey Island. It is at least remarkable that no *further* trace of any kind should have been discovered. As a simple question of evidence, it may be fairly considered as weighing in favour of the presumption that some powerful inducement to take advantage of a sudden opening in the ice had rendered a precipitate movement necessary; and it may also be observed, that at that early period of the expedition Sir John Franklin would not have had any very particular

object in his future expected and search of and crews to command might, it then when not likely the same overtaken of the Pa have been that are l connection of evidence to foster appointed sonable p