

Journal of M. De Bray, of
the French Marine.

Remarked two lemming tracks and one fox track on the floe, coming from the west towards the shore.

Several very fresh ptarmigan tracks and fox tracks on the land.

TWENTY-EIGHTH JOURNEY.

April 30th, Saturday.

Started at 8h. 30m. P.M. Sky overcast, calm. The floe always the same, and the drag very hard.

Lunch at 2h. A.M. Started at 2h. 30m. A.M. proceeding towards a bluff, which looks like the extremity of a point.

Encamped at 6h. 30m. A.M.

The refraction very considerable.

Remarked several tracks of deer, foxes and lemmings crossing the floe.

Saw two ptarmigan flying over the sledges.

May 1st, Sunday.
Course steered - S.S.W.
Estim. dist. - 9 miles.
Encamp. for rest - 13 h. 45 m.
Lunch - - 30 m.
Marching - - 9 h. 30 m.
Temp. - - - 2°.
Wind - - - calm
State of ice - rough and old.

TWENTY-NINTH JOURNEY.

May 1st, Sunday.

Started at 8h. 30m. P.M. Clear weather; light breeze from the N. and N.E.; hoisted the sail, although it was a very little help to us.

Lunch at 2h. A.M. Started at 2h. 30m. A.M., proceeding towards the shore, in hopes of finding a better floe.

During a spell, three ptarmigan came very close the sledges: one of the men fired a shot, but missed them.

The floe in shore very good; the snow, being under the shade of the high land, is hard and smooth.

Encamped at 6h. A.M. on a small point where Commander M'Clintock intends to place his depôt.

Commenced building a cairn.

The land to the N.W. and W. apparently very high, at about 20 or 30 miles.

May 2d, Monday.
Course steered - S.S.W.
Estim. dist. - 9 miles.
Encamp. for rest - 14 h.
Lunch - - 30 m.
Marching - - 9 h.
Temp. - - - 6°.
Wind - - - N. to N.E. 1 to 2.
State of ice - rough but good in shore.

THIRTIETH JOURNEY.

May 2d, Monday.

Commander M'Clintock having decided, after an examination, that his sledge was not fit to go any longer with a load, made an exchange with me, taking my sledge, which was in very good state, only having a few rivets missing.

At the same time I received three men; Hood, who had a strain and could not drag, and the two stockers, Smither and Coombes. I gave him one of my men, Drew, to complete his eight men. All the gear were exchanged, and my provisions complete to 11 days for 11 men.

I received the following instructions from Commander M'Clintock:

"Proceed along shore, examining the beach in such parts as were not traversed in our outward journey, as far as Depôt Island; do this with all the speed you can, and return to Point Nias as fast as possible. Take up my depôt of seven days' provision. Having carried out this depôt to Cape Fisher return to the ships. Leave records and cairns at Depôt Island, Grassy Cape, Cape Fisher, and Port Nias, at the Cart, and in any other positions you deem suitable. Dig up and copy Parry's record at Point Nias, and leave it on the surface that I can easily find it and add my news to it."

At 9h. P.M. shaking hands cordially with Commander M'Clintock, and the two parties cheering each other, I started, proceeding along the beach at a rapid pace, leaving them in good health and high spirits.

The weather misty, light breeze from the S.S.E.

I sent the sledge across a large bay, walking myself along the beach. The weather very squally; lost sight of the sledge for a long time, joining only for lunch at 2h. 30m. A.M.

Started at 3h. A.M., with the weather clearing in the north. The bay that I explored to-day is, according to my estimation, three miles deep and about three miles broad at the entrance. Encamped at 7h. A.M. Slight refraction.

Shot three ptarmigan on the land near a very remarkable bluff that we called Coin Hill.

The depôt is placed at about two miles from a cape called Cape De Bray. From this cape the land seemed to run to the south, and in all probability Lieutenant Meckham and Commander M'Clintock will meet in a short space of time.

From this day I cannot register the temperature, having no thermometer.

May 3d, Tuesday.
Course steered - N.E.
Estim. dist. - 13½ miles.
Encamp. for rest - 14 h.
Lunch - - 30 m.
Marching - - 9 h. 30 m.
Wind - - - S.S.E. 1 to 3.
State of ice - good in shore.