

CANDLESTICK OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN, (A CANADIAN RELIC.)

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THE circumstance mentioned in the July number of this Journal, concerning the interesting event of the laying of the first stone of the Rideau Canal by Sir John Franklin, occurred in August 1827, on his return from his second expedition to the shores of the Polar Sea. As bearing upon the same matter, the following extract is here given from Vol. 2 of the *Canadian Magazine* published at Montreal, April 1825, page 382:—

“The officers of the Land Arctic Expedition, consisting of Captain Franklin, commander, Lieutenant Kendal, astronomer, Dr. Richardson, surgeon and naturalist, and Mr. Drummond, botanist, from England *via* New York, arrived at Niagara, on the 2nd inst, and after viewing the Falls, embarked on board a packet for York on the evening of the 4th. It is said the whole party will assemble at Bear Lake, and in the spring of 1826 will descend McKenzie's River, embark on the Polar Sea in July of the same year, and sail westwardly towards Icy Cape. Should they not meet there with Captain Perry, the Blossom of 28 guns, (which has lately sailed from England to the south seas,) will be found waiting at Behrings Straits, in the event of the expedition reaching that point. It is intended on reaching McKenzie's River, that a party shall proceed eastward and explore the line of coast between that and Coppermine River. A detachment of the same expedition has gone by the way of Hudson's Bay.”

This gives accurately the time of Franklin's arrival in Canada as the 2nd of April 1825, and his departure for the North, and the ceremony at Bytown occurred in August, 1827,