

wilderness of ice as far as the 114° of west longitude, having gone over in all at least eight hundred miles !

When Captain Austin's Expedition left the Thames in the month of May, 1850, the plan of the Great Exhibition had been already laid down. No one at that time dreamt of the glorious success which ultimately crowned Prince Albert's project. The grandeur of the undertaking, however, and the noble philanthropy in which it originated had already created a sensation throughout the civilized world; and his Royal Highness, the Prince consort, began even then to receive the first of that tribute of admiration and applause, which has since been so largely heaped upon him by the unanimous voice of assembled nations.

We see by the pages of the "Aurora Borealis," that whilst locked in the ice, and cut off from all communication with the rest of the world, those on board Captain Austin's squadron numbered the fear of not seeing the Great Exhibition amongst their other regrets of home and country. Fate, however, favoured them, and they arrived in London during the last week of the Exhibition. Sir William Reid, with a thoughtfulness which does him the greatest credit, at once sent free admissions for the remaining