

No. 2.

Narrative of Proceedings of Capt. Kellett, Commander Moore, and Lieut. Pullen.

greater part of them Americans); they appear to be a most disorganized set of men. Mr. Shedden offered to place his vessel at my disposal, and appeared anxious that I should send an officer on board him.

By 7 p.m. we had completed our water (having obtained 35 tons), and by 10 p.m. had taken on board as much wood as we could stow.

Sailed from Petropaulski.

June 25.—At 6 a.m. weighed in a calm, and towed out from the anchorage. Got a light wind from the southward, bringing with it a fog, though still not so thick but that both sides of the entrance could be seen. Continued beating out. In making a stretch over to the eastern shore from Babouski Island, the fog closed down over the rocks, and deceived me as to their distance; I hove the ship in stays with the greatest confidence, but the whirls of the tide made her slack, and shot her on to the rocks, before I had time to bring up with an anchor.

Grounded on the rocks of Pinnacle Point, in Awatska Bay.

Floated again.

The stream anchor and cable was laid out, and hove taut, and at 2. 10 p.m. the ship was hove off into deep water, having been nearly three hours on shore; fortunately, the water at the time was glassy smooth, so that the ship laid perfectly quiet, until a short time before getting off, when she lifted, and struck heavily by the bow two or three times, bringing away on each occasion small pieces of her false keel. The ship made no water, and I did not consider her much damaged. Remained at anchor during the night.

June 26.—9 a.m. weighed with a light S. E. wind, but was obliged to anchor again in a very exposed position, near the Island of Staritchkoo, it being a calm, with a current setting directly on shore. A thick fog and dead calm during the night. Quantities of fish and crabs were caught at this position.

June 27.—At 10 a.m. we weighed with a light N.E. wind, which took us clear of the shoals off the entrance, and almost immediately we entered a dense fog.

Struggling with light variable winds and fogs, we did not pass Bhering's Island until the 2d of July. On the morning of the 13th we passed the carcass of a dead whale, and in the forenoon another; shortly afterwards we exchanged colours with one of the American whalers we had seen at Petropaulski, and before 12 o'clock the other two. Large flocks of the little crested auk about the ship. At noon, the north-west end of St. Lawrence Island bore true east, distant 12 miles. Running during the night with a fresh S.S.W. wind, and thick weather. Hauled up for the Asiatic shore at 7 a.m. under easy sail, to make the land, which we did near the northern point of St. Lawrence Bay, having experienced in that time a current of 25 miles to the northward. At 8. 30, passing within three miles of East Cape, shaped our course for Cape Espenberg (Kotzebue Sound) with a very strong S.E. wind.

In passing across the straits, we saw to the northward of the Diomed Islands two other whale-ships hove to, with their heads to the S.W., one of them trying out.

We passed over the shoal spoken of by Captain Beechey, off Schismarief Inlet, and found in 7 fathoms the least water, the sea at the time so high and hollow that it frequently broke into our main chains.

Running along the low land off Cape Espenberg, which we passed shortly after midnight, we had uninterrupted daylight; the only difference between the light at midnight and noon being as the light of a November day in England is to that of a summer's one.

As we entered the Sound, the wind gradually lightened, and veered to the eastward. Passed several logs-of drift-wood.

July 15.—Shortly after 8 a.m. we made out a vessel at anchor under Chamisso Island, and at 10 exchanged numbers with Her Majesty's ship "Plover." We reached the anchorage by 1 p.m., having run in 50 hours from the west end of St. Lawrence Island to the anchorage off Chamisso.

Commander Moore came on board, from whom I was glad to learn that the officers and crew were all healthy and in good spirits. He had only arrived at 6 a.m. the day previous, having passed the winter in a harbour discovered by the "Plover" on the Asiatic shore, close to the south of Cape Tchukatsky.

Before my arrival, two boats had been despatched for the Mackenzie River, under the command of Lieutenant Lee; fortunately, the "Herald" hove in sight before