

Sir,

Admiralty, 15 February 1853.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to signify their direction to you to use your own discretion as to quitting your present quarters after the receipt of this, and endeavouring to secure the " Plover " for the winter in Grantley Harbour ; but should you deem it prudent to remain where you are for the ensuing winter, my Lords desire you will use your utmost endeavours, as soon as the season will permit in 1854, to reach the winter quarters of the " Rattlesnake " in Grantley Harbour, so as to effect a junction with that ship in time to make the necessary exchanges between the two crews, and receive the needful supplies, before the " Rattlesnake " shall have been compelled to quit Bhering Strait in the autumn of 1854, on her return to this country.

2. In the event of your remaining this winter in Moore Harbour, you are to employ yourself in depositing all the supplies you can spare for the relief of any party that might reach that neighbourhood from Captain Collinson's or Commander M'Clure's ship. You will also extend your parties right and left along the shore, and in such direction as may be advisable, as far as may be prudent, in order to deposit notices of your proceedings and intentions, and of the store of supplies left at Moore Harbour.

3. Before quitting Moore Harbour, you will erect such house or place of shelter for any arriving party as your means will permit ; and even if you should be unable to move the " Plover " round to Grantley Harbour, you and your people are at all events to make good your retreat to the quarters to be provided in that Harbour by Commander Trollope.

4. For directions as to the course to be adopted in depositing notices of your intentions, and of the supplies left in Moore Harbour, their Lordships refer you to their instructions to Sir Edward Belcher, and to the further remarks on that subject contained in Sir Edward Belcher's letter to the Secretary of the Admiralty, of the 29th May last, from Whale Fish Islands.

I am, &c.

(signed) *W. A. B. Hamilton.*

Commander Maguire,  
H. M. Discovery Ship, " Plover,"  
Moore Harbour, Point Barrow,  
or to any Officers of the " Plover," at Cape Lisburne.

---