

COPY of a NOTICE deposited on the PRINCESS ROYAL ISLES by  
Commander M'CLURE.

This staff and cairn were erected by a party from Her Majesty's Discovery ship Investigator, that was beset in the ice north-east four miles from it upon the 18th of September 1850, and wintered in the pack with perfect safety.

The N.W. passage was discovered by a travelling party across the ice upon the 26th of October, in latitude  $73^{\circ} 31' N.$  and longitude  $114^{\circ} 14' W.$

There is a depôt of provisions, ammunition, and a boat S.W. from this mark upon the east side of the pond.

Driftwood may be obtained upon both shores of the mainland, but it is most abundant upon the eastern.

Game is plentiful from the first week in May.

No intelligence whatever has been found which can throw the least light upon the fate of the missing expedition under Sir John Franklin.

Esquimaux are to be met with about 90 miles to the southward upon the eastern shore, who are a friendly and simple tribe.

The eastern shore is named Prince Albert Land.

The western shore is named Baring Land.

This strait is named the Prince of Wales.

Crew all well and in excellent spirits.

Dated on board Her Majesty's Discovery ship Investigator, frozen-in off the Princess Royal Islands, latitude  $72^{\circ} 50' N.$ , longitude  $117^{\circ} 55' W.$ , 15th of June 1851.

(Signed)

ROBERT M'CLURE, Commander.

COPY of a NOTICE deposited on the East Coast of VICTORIA ISLAND  
by Chief Factor RAE.

Latitude  $70^{\circ} 2' 30'' N.$ , longitude  $101^{\circ} 18' W$   
August 13th, 1851.

A party of ten men and two officers of the Hudson Bay Company descended the Coppermine River in the latter end of June, in two boats; found a channel of open water along shore on the 5th of July. Came along the coast eastward as far as Cape Alexander; were detained there some days, as the ice in the strait was still unbroken, when they crossed over by the Finlayson Islands to Victoria Land, which was found to run nearly east to longitude  $102^{\circ} 40' W.$ , when it turned up to the north. Here is a deep and irregular-shaped bay, between latitude  $69^{\circ} 15'$ , and  $69^{\circ} 40'$ , in longitude  $102^{\circ} 3' W$ . The boats were arrested by ice in latitude  $69^{\circ} 43' N.$ , and  $101^{\circ} 24' W.$  (?)—a walking party traced the coast 35 miles farther, nearly due north. The only particular worthy of notice was an island, seen about five miles long and four miles from the shore. Much of the ice was still unbroken, and was pressed close to the shore by a continuance of north-easterly winds, which will probably make our return difficult. As far as regards the object of the expedition (a search for Sir J. Franklin and party), we were quite unsuccessful.

(Signed)

JOHN RAE, Chief Factor, H.B.C.,  
Commanding Expedition.

NOTE.—To-morrow I return to the boats.—J.R.

COPY of a PAPER received from the CHIEF of the RAT INDIANS in CAMDEN BAY,  
on the 20th of July, 1854. —

Fort Youcon, June 27th, 1854.

The printed slips of paper delivered by the officers of H.M.S. Plover, on the 25th of April 1854, to the Rat Indians, were received 27th June 1854, at the Hudson Bay Company's Establishment, Fort Youcon; supposed latitude  $66^{\circ} N.$ , longitude  $7^{\circ} 55' W.$ . The Rat Indians are in the habit of making periodical trading excursions to the Esquimaux along the sea-coast. They are a harmless, inoffensive set of Indians, ever ready and willing to render every assistance they can to Whites.

(Signed)

W. LUCAS HARDISTY,  
Clerk in Charge.