

III.
Expedition to
Behring's Straits.

— No. 10. —

Her Majesty's Brig "Plover,"
Callao, 7 July 1848.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of this date, acquainting me of the arrival of Lieutenant Pullen at Panama, I have the honour to request you will allow Lieutenant W. A. R. Lee (supernumerary on board this ship) to proceed in this ship to Behring's Straits; for if I were to call at Panama, I should in all probability lose every chance of proceeding on my search, from the prevalent calms in that bay and the exceedingly slow sailing qualities of this ship.

Should it appear necessary to you, Lieutenant Pullen might come up to me in the "Herald" next season.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Thomas E. L. Moore,*
Commander.

Rear-Admiral Hornby, C.B.,
Commander-in-chief, &c. &c. &c., Callao.

— No. 11. —

Her Majesty's Brig "Plover," Callao,
7 July 1848.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that I arrived at this place in Her Majesty's brig under my command, on the night of the 4th instant; and after completing water, provisions, &c., and having consulted Rear-admiral Hornby on the subject of my not calling at Panama, for the reasons mentioned in my letter of the 12th May last (a copy of which I beg to enclose), and having also had a communication with Captain Henderson of the "Sampson," who assured me that I should be becalmed, in all probability, some months, were I to enter the Bay of Panama. (He towed the "Herald" some 20 degrees to the westward, clear of the calms.)

I am now quite ready, and shall sail this afternoon for Chamisso Island, Behring's Straits, calling at the Sandwich Islands for the despatches left there for me by Captain Kellett, if I sight the islands.

I have received permission for Lieutenant W. A. R. Lee to proceed on with me, and the Commander-in-chief will arrange when Lieutenant Pullen will proceed to join me.

I beg to inform their Lordships that any deviation from their orders that I have found necessary, is on account of the bad sailing qualities of this ship. No exertion on my part shall be wanting to carry my instructions to the fullest extent, and I trust my proceedings will meet their Lordships' approbation.

I have, &c.

(signed) *Thomas E. L. Moore,*
Commander.

The Secretary of the Admiralty,
London.

— No. 12. —

My Lord,

Woahoo, 29 August 1848.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that Her Majesty's ship "Plover" arrived here on the 22d instant, and sailed again on the following day for Kotzebue Sound.

The "Plover" left England on the 31st of last January, so that she was on her way to the Sandwich Islands no less than 202 days, out of which she was only 12 days at anchor, namely, nine at the Falkland Islands, and three at Callao.

Her captain, Commander Moore, furthermore informed me, that even with a fair fine wind, seldom more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ knots could be got out of the "Plover," and that her extreme rate of sailing might be six knots, although during a heavy gale she had once or twice gone very nearly seven knots. Hence it is supposed at Honolulu that this vessel is very late in the season to proceed so far to the north.

I have, &c.

(signed) *William Miller.*

The Viscount Palmerston, G. C. B.
&c. &c. &c.