

the departure of Sir John Franklin, to project a land-party of explorers who should co-operate with the naval expedition. This plan he submitted to the Colonial Secretary, the present Earl Derby, proposing that he himself should be joined in the command of the auxiliaries. His suggestion was disregarded. In June, '47, fears began to be entertained for the fate of the *Erebus* and *Terror*. He then wrote to Lord Grey, who had succeeded Lord Stanley in office, a letter in which he pointed out as probable those very particulars with regard to the Franklin Expedition which the search of Captain M'Clintock has actually verified. This letter received a mere formal acknowledgment — no reply. Five months afterwards Dr. King wrote Lord Grey a second letter, which this time received the compliment of an answer from the courteous nobleman's second, Mr. Hawes, referring him to the Lords of the Admiralty. If this answer had been returned to Dr. King's first letter, no particular blame could have attached to Lord Grey. He was not bound to know Dr. King, nor to be acquainted with anybody's business but his

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