

voyage of Captain (now Sir George) Back, and the completion of discovery round the mysterious coasts of Boothia; the latter gives the substance of all which has been made known, in volumes, periodicals, and public documents, respecting the lamented expedition of Sir John Franklin, and the complicated searches for it; and the two together, it is hoped, will be regarded by every reader as an important addition to the value of this work.

Besides these narratives, several of the most distinguished men of science in Scotland lent their aid to illustrate the wonderful order of nature prevailing within the Arctic Circle. Sir John Leslie commenced the volume with a full examination of the Climate and its Phenomena,—subjects so important as they respect those high latitudes, that without a preliminary knowledge of them the progress of discovery would be but imperfectly understood. A general survey of all that is known regarding the Geological Structure of the same interesting regions has been given by Professor Jameson.

The chapter on Natural History, though the subject be treated by Mr. Murray in a popular rather than in a scientific manner, has received the careful revision of a distinguished naturalist.

The whale-fishery forms a striking feature in Arctic adventure, and is, besides, of great national as well as commercial importance. Of its daring operations and its various perils, the description here introduced may be the more acceptable, as it is presumed to be the only one hitherto attempted within a moderate compass.

For an account of the successive expeditions, by land