

Government, City of London, Royal Geographical Society, and many private subscribers contributed to send an expedition for the rescue of the gallant captain. The command was given to Capt. Back, who had accompanied Franklin on his first and second expeditions, of 1819 and 1825.

1833.—The expedition left England in February. The route taken was by New York, overland to Montreal, thence by voyageur's route up the Ottawa and the Upper Lakes, from Fort William to Lake Winnipeg, Norway House. Here another start was made up the Saskatchewan, to Portage La Loche, and the journey continued northward. On July 29, Fort Chippewyan, on Lake Athabasca, was reached. Here the real work of exploration began. The Indians discouraged the party greatly by their dismal account of the route.

Aug. 11, Back, with five men in his canoe, started for the Arctic Sea. He was followed by A. R. McLeod, an enterprising officer of the Hudson's Bay Company with his men. The route was by way of the Great Fish River, going out of the eastern extremity of the Great Stone Lake.

1834.—The party spent this winter of 1833-4 in buildings they had erected, called "Fort Reliance." After many adventures, the estuary of the Fish or Back River was reached about latitude 68° N.

1835.—March 21.—Capt. Back began his return voyage and passed by way of Chippewyan homewards, reaching Norway House, June 24. He had, while in the far north, received letters telling him that Sir John Ross had returned safely in 1833 to Great Britain, having been rescued by the crew of a whaler.

(9) THOMAS SIMPSON. (*Simpson and Dease's Explorations.*)

This expedition was undertaken by the Hudson's Bay Company, for the purpose of discovering the north-east coast of America. Dease was the senior officer, and had accompanied Franklin, though Thomas Simpson, a relative of Sir George Simpson, has received most notice.

1837.—On June 1, Simpson and Dease's party carried in two seaboats, named "Castor" and "Pollux," and a bateau called "Goliath," left Fort Chippewyan to descend the Mackenzie River. On July 6, the Arctic Ocean burst on the view of the expedition, and was saluted with joyous cheers. As they journeyed coasting the ocean, Return Reef was reached on the 23rd, and the party arrived at Boat Extreme on the 30th. On foot from Boat Extreme, Point Barron was visited Aug. 3, the western point which their instructions covered. They saw this point with emotion, 21° west of the mouth of Mackenzie River. On the 17th, they reëntered the mouth of the Mackenzie. By ascending the Mackenzie, and traversing Great Bear Lake, their winter quarters were gained Sept. 25. These they called "Fort Confidence."

1838.—June 6.—They started for Coppermine River, reaching its mouth July 2. On the 17th, they made a second sea voyage—now eastward from 115° W. On Aug. 25, they discovered new land, erected a stone pillar and unfurled the Union Jack