

INTRODUCTION.

On his Majesty's Service.

St. John's, Newfoundland, July 9, 1803.

SIR,

Ir is with extreme concern I have the honour to inform you of the total loss of his Majesty's Packet Lady Hobart, under my command, on the morning of the 28th June, at sea, in lat. $46^{\circ} 33'$ north, and long. $44^{\circ} 00'$ west from Greenwich, on an island of ice.

The accompanying Narrative of our proceedings, from the time of the ship's foundering, will, I trust, be a sufficient testimony to their Lordships, that no exertion on my part, or that of my officers and ship's company, was wanting, both as to preserving the ship from sinking, as well as the total impossibility of saving the dispatches.