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on this part of the coast, we erected a conical pile of ponderous stones, that, if not pulled down by the natives, may defy the rage of a thousand storms. In it was placed a bottle, containing a sketch of our proceedings, and possession was taken of our discoveries in the name of Victoria I.

"On the 19th, the gale shifted, and after crossing a bay, due east, the coast bent away northeast, which enabled us to effect a run of forty miles. Next day the wind resumed its former direction, and after pulling against it all the morning and gaining only three miles, we were obliged to take refuge in the mouth of a small river.

"From a ridge, about a league inland, we obtained a view of some very remote blue land in the northeast, in all probability one of the southern promontories of Boothia. Two considerable islands lay far in the offing, and others, high and distant, stretched from E. to ENE.

"Our view of the low main shore was confined to five miles in an easterly direction, after which it appeared to turn off greatly to the right. We could, therefore, scarcely doubt our having arrived at that large gulf uniformly described by the Esquimaux as containing many islands, and with numerous indentations stretching southward till it approaches within forty miles of Repulse and Wager bays. The exploration of such a gulf, which was the object of the Terror's ill-starred voyage, would necessarily demand the whole time and energies of another expedition, having a starting or retreating point much nearer to the scene of operations than Great Bear Lake; and it was evident to us that any further perseverance could only lead to the loss of the great object already attained, together with that of the whole party. We must here be allowed to express our admiration of Sir John Ross's extraordinary escape from this neighborhood, after the protracted endurance of our ships, unparalleled in arctic story. The mouth of the stream, which bounded the last career of our admirable little boats, and received their name, lies in latitude 68 deg. 28 min. 27 sec. N., longitude 97 deg. 3 min. W.; variation of the compass, 16 deg. 20 min. W."

We have done our best to make the doings of Messrs. Dease and Simpson, and Sir John Ross, comprehensible. We something doubt whether we have succeeded. As far as we know, there has as yet been no map, great or small, of the recent discoveries, published either in this country or in England; and without such a facility, it is almost out of the question to follow either of the exploring parties. Even were the line of coast well defined, the absurd practice of American map makers of calculating longitude from Washington, instead of from Greenwich, is excessively harassing to the reader who attempts to accompany an English traveller on an American chart.

One question arises from the whole subject, *Cui bono?* What good is to result from the lavish expenditure of wealth, the unremitting exertions of five centuries, the loss of life that has attended the search after the north-west passage? It has been said with apparent truth, that the passage now demonstrated to exist, exists to no available purpose; that it never has been and never will be passed. But these objections are rather specious than real. The discovery of the magnetic pole alone, repays every sacrifice made in the cause of northern discovery from the date of Eric Raude and his Northmen down to the time of Ross, Dease, and Simpson. Again, if the passage can never be effected in one season, or by one vessel, does it follow that it cannot be effected at all? The contrary is demonstrated. What has been done once can be done again. Every inch of the coast