

timate success of his mission—the discovery of some of Sir John Franklin's men. The voyage here described was, as far as Mr. Hall's great object was concerned, a failure, and he is now making a second progress in the north, which all must hope will be attended with greater results than the last.

However his second voyage may result, the world must be grateful for what they have got—a delightful account of his first—Mr. Hall does not appear to have penetrated into the extreme north, in the footsteps of Kane or McClintock. The chief portion of his time was spent in the neighbourhood of Frobisher's Bay, where he discovered remains of that officer's party. This indeed was the most interesting result obtained by his expedition. That coals left on the snow 300 years ago should still be visible and above the surface, seems indeed very extraordinary. Yet after reading Mr. Hall's book through, no room is left for doubt on the subject. Here is his description of the first sight he caught of the coal:

Lifting my eyes from the ground near me I discovered a considerable distance a head an object of an unusual appearance. But a second look satisfied me that what I saw, were simply stones, scattered about and covered with black moss. I continued my course, keeping as near the coast as possible. I was now nearing the spot where I had first desecrated the black object. It again met my view, and my original thought upon first seeing it, resumed at once the ascendancy in my mind. I hastened to the spot. "Great God! thou hast rewarded me in my search!" was the sentiment that came overwhelmingly into my thankful soul. On raising my eyes and seeing and feeling the character of the relics before and under me, I felt as—I cannot tell what my feelings were. What I saw before me was *sea coal* of Frobisher's expedition of 1587 left here near three centuries ago.

The relics found here and in a neighbouring island consisted of coal, fragments of iron, old fashioned pottery, rope, &c., of the extreme antiquity of which, no doubt can possibly exist. But what we enjoy more than all else in Mr. Hall's book, are his accounts of Innuits (Esquimaux) life, and some of his sporting sketches. The accounts of bear hunts, walrus and seal taking, &c., will delight all lovers of sport between the ages of 12 and 80. All the energies of life would seem in these regions to be expended upon keeping body and soul together. Here is a curious way of obtaining fresh water through thick ice and snow:

"Once, while I was on a sledge-journey with Koojessie, I was suffering from thirst, and we had no water. Koojessie turned aside, and went off with his seal spear upon a little fresh-water pond. I knew that the ice there would naturally be ten feet thick at that season, and therefore wondered how he expected to find water. After looking about carefully for some time, he selected a place where the snow seemed to be very deep, and there, after clearing it away, he struck with his spear upon the ice, and very soon made a hole through which he obtained water. When I inquired about it, I learned that a heavy body of snow falling upon the ice would press it down, allowing the water to come up and collect above it. The surface of this collected water would freeze, forming a comparatively thin coating of ice, but leaving a reservoir of water inclosed, which could be easily reached, as I found to my relief."

The following method employed by bears for the destruction of Walruses sounds rather like a traveller's tale. It is not vouchsafed for by Mr. Hall himself, but was described to him by the Esquimaux hunters:

"In August, every fine day, the walrus makes his way to the shore, draws his huge body up on the rocks, and basks in the sun. If this happens near the base of a cliff, the ever-watchful bear takes advantage of the circumstance to attack this formidable game in this way: The bear mounts the cliff, and throws down upon the animal's head a large rock, calculating the distance and the curve with astonishing accuracy, and thus crushing the thick, bullet-proof skull."

If the walrus is not instantly killed—simply stunned—the bear rushes down to the walrus, seizes the rock, and hammers away at the head till the skull is broken. A fat feast follows. Unless the bear is very hungry, it eats only the blubber of the walrus, seal and whale."

An ingenious device of the Innuits for making their sledges run lightly, is thus described:

"When travelling with a sledge they are accustomed to coat the bottom of the runners with ice, thus making a shoe which is smoother than any thing else that could be invented. The manner of performing this operation is curious. The sledge is turned bottom up, and the Innuits fill his mouth with water in which has been mingled a little seal's blood, in order to give it tenacity. He then sends it out in a fine, well-directed, and evenly-applied stream upon

the runner, where it at once congeals. When, after some hours' travel, the coating is worn away, it is renewed in the same manner. But the question naturally arises, How can the water be carried without freezing? The Innuits do this by filling a bag of seal-skin or oolook bladder and slipping it down between his shoulder, under his clothing, the warmth of his body keeping it liquid."

Mr. Hall arrived on his return voyage at St. John's on the 26th —, 1862, after an absence of two years and three months in the Arctic Seas. It is to be hoped that the expedition where with Mr. Hall is at present engaged far north, may bear some thing of some of the Franklin party. Such hopes, we fear, are rather vain, though Mr. Hall is far from despairing of the result. In his diary January 8th, he says:

"I repeat: The history of Sir John Franklin's expedition exists among the natives now living, on, and in the vicinity of King Williams Land, Montreal Island, and Boothia Felix peninsula. I am almost positive that if I can be so blessed by the Power that overrules all things as to make a successful passage (i. e. in his second expedition) to the place of my desired operation, I can after a time accomplish such a work, as shall make it a matter of astonishment to the civilized world that the same has not been done before."

That Mr. Hall may meet with success, must be the wish of all Englishmen, who see with pleasure and gratitude this new attempt of Americans to discover traces and remains of our long lost explorers.

### Communications, &c.

*It is distinctly to be borne in mind that we do not, by inserting letters convey any opinion favorable to their contents. We open our columns to all, without leaning to any; and thus supply a channel for the publication of opinions of all shades, to be found in no other journal in Nova Scotia.*

*No notice whatever will be taken of eulogiums on communications. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.*

### TEMPERANCE.

To the Editor of the "Bullfrog":

SIR,—In your issue of the 7th, appears a communication signed "Eagle Eye," which I think requires some notice from the Temperance men of this community, as the expression of sentiments such as your correspondent puts forth, would be likely to do harm, if allowed to pass unnoticed; and I trust that, as you have opened your columns to attack, you will not close them to defence.

The work of Temperance in all parts of this Province is "up-hill" work; and more especially is this the case in the City of Halifax. No well-meaning man would attempt openly to oppose the advancement of the cause; but there are those in the community who like now and then to have a "sly poke" at the "Sons." Instance, your correspondent, "Eagle Eye." He says: "I am not opposed to Temperance *per se*, but I am opposed to the method adopted by the 'Temperance League' to put down drunkenness." Indeed! Now, Sir, before I proceed, I would like to ask "Eagle Eye" who the Temperance men are. Are they hired public servants? Are they paid from the Provincial Exchequer or civic funds? Do they enjoy any privileges in the way of exemption from taxes, &c.? I think not; and anybody who is not a member, has no more right to question their mode of action, than he has to dictate to the St. George's, the North British, or any other Society, what they shall or shall not do to increase their numbers.

Your correspondent takes exception to the intolerance of speakers in behalf of Temperance; and gives an instance of a clerical friend of his who was reluctantly made to acknowledge to an audience, that he was not a teetotaler. He says that his friend was placed in a position "which society demands should have been avoided." I agree with him there. It is not society alone which demands that such a position should be avoided; but that BEING of whom the Clergyman is the servant, demands that the Shepherds of his flock should never be so situated, that they should be ashamed or afraid to acknowledge their position—"whereby a brother is made weak or stumbleth." And I ask you, Sir, in what manner can a Clergyman better obey that Divine counsel, than by boldly proclaiming to the world that he is a "Temperance man."

"Eagle Eye" says he will not join with Temperance Leagues while "they follow this line of politics"—(i. e.) telling the truth about "confirmed drunkards," and "moderate drinkers." I suppose he would join a Society which would preach and not practice. If the Temperance men would advocate total abstinence, and to be a drop occasionally to "strengthen them in the good cause," I have

no doubt that ranks; but will benefit by such not be very likely against drink or brandy!

Now, Mr. F and no play," men have done Room and a week; though ing matter"; for the men's extent, working expenditure; wards making us at the No on the paymen drinkers" price of the privilege.

"Eagle Eye" the man who says that par our to procure How would he quietly sipping provide a circle come a volunteer but would rain down the steel

If your correspondent hope he is not who are afraid means of his habit Temper "Sons," and wants to aid let him try to let him be twenty more be a benefit may be anxious vice, Intemper Abstinence." you "A bro Hoping, I your valuable

Halifax, J

By the means been the te down as sh and afterwards name was s gotten that captain, w seas, was the course she Brazilian C taken place coaling place down came sure of ste lost in setti this doom efforts were baling vig and night, "rebels to" was but acting m e if that tith in a