

purpose. If I live, I will faithfully perform, in its utmost extent, my engagement to the society; and if I perish in the attempt, my honour will still be safe, for death cancels all bonds."

4. On leaving London, Ledyard proceeded to Paris, thence to Marseilles, where he took ship for Alexandria. From this last place he pursued his journey up the Nile to Cairo, where he arrived on the nineteenth of August. Here it was his intention to join a caravan, with which to travel into the interior, and to continue with it to the end of its route. It was not, however, until the expiration of three months, that he found a caravan going to Sennaar, whither he wished to direct his course. He had engaged his passage, settled the terms, and already the day was fixed on which he was to leave Cairo.

5. But the will of Heaven was otherwise. This was to be the end of his earthly travels—of his mortal career. When on the point of starting, he was suddenly seized with a bilious complaint, which in a short time closed his life of vicissitude and toil. Thus, at the early age of thirty-eight, went to his grave John Ledyard, who for originality of genius, for courage amidst danger, fortitude under trial, and resolution under defeat, has scarcely a parallel in the history of man.