

feature to northern maritime adventure in the seventeenth century ; and one of these expeditions, which passed a winter on the frozen shores of Hudson's Bay, was the first to perform that perilous and hardy feat.

Luke, commonly called North-west, Fox, and Captain James, sailed in 1631 for the Arctic Regions. Fox entered Hudson's Bay in June, and penetrating to that point which has ever since been called "N. W. Fox his furthest," returned to England after an absence of six months. Not so Captain James ; he left England in the 'Henrietta Maria' of seventy tons, and made Greenland on the 4th of June ; but encountering many and serious disasters, he was eventually forced to winter at Charlton Island, in Hudson's Bay. In his forlorn position the first mishap was the fatal illness of the gunner to the expedition, who begged in his dying moments to be allowed to drink a glass of sack ; but "the wine froze in the bottle, as well as the plaster at his wound." Captain James contrived to build a house on shore for wintering in, but so intense was the cold that the men's noses, cheeks, and hands were frozen white as paper : blisters were thus raised as large as walnuts, and both oil and vinegar were hard like pieces of wood. But, what was more mortifying than all the rest, they found, that after getting over the severe winter, April was the coldest month : some of the men had "aches, others sore mouths, insomuch that the surgeon cut