

February. Captain *Moor*, fearful of a Thaw, proceeded to cut his Ship out of the Ice; but Captain *Smith* had no Intention of cutting out the *California* as yet. And this Proceeding of Captain *Moor's* was very unseasonable, & greatly discontenting the Men, and forwarding them in their Illness. For the Weather between the twenty-fourth and twenty-eighth was very close, cold, with Falls of fleaky and small Snow, and on the twenty-eighth it was very sharp Weather, with a hard Gale of Wind, and so severely cold as to cause the Hair and Eyebrows to be covered with a white Frost; and the Moisture of the Eyebrows and Droppings of the Nose to freeze, as had been usual in Winter. It must be supposed that Work amongst Ice and Water went on but heavily in such Weather, as it really did; though on the first Day they in one Place got to the Water, which was under the Ice, and to the Ship's Keel, finding the Water warm, and the Mud soft and unfroze.

Towards the latter Part of this Month several of the People were Snow-blind, which did not continue more than two or three Days to any one of them. Most of them had sore Eyes, occasioned by the same Reason as the Blindness, *viz.* the Reflexion of the Sun upon the Whiteness of the Snow. The only Prevention is, the timely Wearing of a Piece of black Crape over the Eyes.