

FIFTH JOURNEY.

April 8th, Friday.
Temp. - - -22°.
Wind - - -N.N.W. S.

Confined to the tent by a very strong breeze from the N.N.W. Drift very thick.

SIXTH JOURNEY.

April 9th, Saturday.
Temp. - - -26°.
Wind - - -N.N.W. S to E.

Confined to the tent by the same weather.

Johnson complained of great weakness; this I attributed to the fatigue of laying down for so many hours with such a low temperature. I gave him a warm drink and half a tea spoonful of spirit of ammoniaque.

Towards the evening, the weather having cleared a little, I gave a good shaking to our bedding, in order to get rid of the snow produced inside by the congelation of the vapour.

SEVENTH JOURNEY.

April 10th, Sunday.
Temp. - - -25°.
Wind - - -N.N.W. S to E.

Confined to the tent by the same weather although the wind had slightly moderated.

I went out to pay a visit to Commander M'Clintock who had suffered from a slight attack of snow-blindness.

All the other tents were in a good state and had no complaints of frost-bites.

Johnson after a good sleep during the night was well this morning.

EIGHTH JOURNEY.

April 11th, Monday.
Course steered - N. 6° W.
Estim. dist. - 6 miles.
Encamp. for rest - 14 h. 30 m.
Lunch - 30 m.
Marching - 9 h.
Temp. - - -5°.
Wind - - -N.N.W. 4 to 6.

The weather having cleared with a good appearance, breakfast, packed the sledge and started at 8h. 30m. A.M.

The road very bad, occasioned by the great quantity of stones completely bare of snow, which obliged us sometimes to make long turnings.

Lunch at 1h. 30m. A.M. Proceeded at 2h. A.M. to cross a small ravine. Encamped at 6h. A.M. The weather very clear, calm towards the evening.

NINTH JOURNEY.

April 12th, Tuesday.
Course steered - N. 6° W.
Estim. dist. - 8 miles.
Encamp. for rest - 14 h.
Lunch - 30 m.
Marching - 10 h. 25 m.
Temp. - - -11°.
Wind - - -S.S.E. 1 to 3

At 8h. A.M. breakfast, packed the sledge and proceeded with a light breeze of the S.S.E. The weather remarkably fine allowed us to put our gears to dry, by hoisting them on the shears.

The road much better than yesterday; in some places the snow very deep.

Lunch at 1h. 15m. P.M. Started at 1h. 45m. P.M., the breeze freshening from the S.S.E.

Passed a ravine called Cart Cairn, from whence I enjoyed the panorama of the north coast of Hecla and Griper Bay.

With the help of the fair wind we soon came to a small cairn at the entrance of the last ravine, in going down which we made rapid progress. But when about two miles from the floe we were stopped by the snow having filled the ravine; we were then obliged to double bank the sledges in order to reach the side of the ravine, where we found a better road.

Encamped at 7h. P.M. in this same ravine at the distance of half a mile from the floe.

My thermometer, which was in a gutta percha case, was broken, most probably by the contraction of the case.

TENTH JOURNEY.

April 13th, Wednesday.
Course steered - W.
Estim. dist. - 7½ miles.
Encamp. for rest - 13 h. 30 m.
Lunch - 30 m.
Marching - 9 h.
Temp. - - -6°.
Wind S.S.E. 1—S.S.W. 1 to 4.

Directly after breakfast I went away with one man and a small sledge to take one case of pemmican and one half-case of bacon to the dépôt cart.

Before starting unloaded my sledge and examined the runners; I found only two rivets missing.

All the men in very good health; inspected their feet, no frost-bites. Started at 8h. 30m. A.M. in company with Mr. Roche and Mr. Hamilton; the last having left his tent and sledge at the encampment.

At 9h. A.M. we shook hands with them and proceeded to the westward, making our way on the beach, the floe being very rough.

The weather clear, light breeze from the S.S.E., hoisted the sail. Lunch at 1h. P.M. Started at 1h. 30m. P.M. Commander M'Clintock and I went ahead of the sledges with a saw and an axe in search of the drift wood he had seen last autumn. We found it without too much difficulty, although it was covered with mud. Soon afterwards the sledges were alongside and we took two days' fuel for each of them.