

Mr. Rae, in April last, was on the eve of setting out from Great Bear Lake, in the hope of crossing on the ice to Victoria Land, and of continuing his search in a boat as soon as the navigation opened. Though he may not actually attain Lieutenant Osborn's furthest, he may, under favourable circumstances, approach so near to the scene of that officer's search, or of Lieutenant M'Clintock's, as to prove, should he find no traces of the ships, that the intervening space is too confined for the seclusion of living men. Captain M'Clure, who passed to the eastward of Point Barrow last season, if he found the sea as open as the more sanguine believe it to be, may have reached the west side of Parry's Archipelago, and have spent the winter not far from the supposed outlet of Victoria Channel; and this season Captain Collinson may be sailing eastward in the same direction. It is from Beering's Straits, then, that we are next to look for tidings of great interest to the civilised world, which sympathises so universally with the efforts made to trace and relieve so many gallant victims to science.\*

20 October, 1851.

\* With reference to Sir John Ross's pigeons, mentioned in a note on page 157. of Vol. II., it appears that he despatched the youngest pair on the 6th or 7th of October, 1850, in a basket suspended to a balloon, during a W.N.W. gale. By the contrivance of a slow-match the birds were to be liberated at the end of twenty-four hours.

THE END.

LONDON:  
SPOTTISWOODES AND SHAW,  
New-Street-Square.