

Having passed the Aleutian Islands, you are to be guided by your own judgment, and on consultation with Commander Moore, whether to separate; the "Plover" proceeding to Chamisso Island, and the "Herald" going to Michaelowski for an interpreter, determining on a point at which to rejoin and to go together to the northward, or at once to push on together to the northward, the "Herald" aiding the "Plover" by her superior sailing, and trusting to the chance of an interpreter being procured at Chamisso Island. You will also be aided in your decision on this point by bearing in mind the necessity of the "Plover" not being later in quitting Chamisso Island than the 15th June, and the difficulty, from her dull sailing, of her accomplishing this object unassisted by the "Herald." Should you not fall in with the "Plover" at Woahoo, you are to proceed to Petropaulowski; and if she should not be there, you are to leave instructions as to where she is to follow the "Herald," should the "Plover" arrive at Petropaulowski after the "Herald's" departure northward; determining on Chamisso Island, or otherwise, as shall seem best and most convenient for the transfer of provisions, &c. You will further be left to determine how late you should continue your own stay at Chamisso Island, provided the "Plover" should fail in joining you there, bearing in mind the expediency in such case of your having your own boats prepared for the expedition along the coast, and of your prosecuting the search intended for the "Plover," during the summer months of 1849. In all these cases you are to take care to leave ample information as to your movements and intentions, for Commander Moore, to enable him to follow you; and should you deem it necessary, you are to deposit a supply of provisions and fuel for the "Plover," in the most convenient spots, with full directions for Commander Moore's finding them.

You will have provided yourself with baidars, for the search along the coast; but foreseeing the probability of your not falling in with the "Plover," you are to take care to have your launch fitted, so that no delay may occur in detaching her with the baidars to the eastward, towards Point Barrow, in prosecution of the search intended for the "Plover's" boats. In the event, however, of your so detaching your boats, you are to be careful to give the most exact instructions for their return to the ship at a point to be fixed upon, such as Point Hope, or other position, in sufficient time to ensure the "Herald's" return to the southward in the autumn of 1849, and her being clear of the Aleutian chain of islands before the severe weather sets in; and for this purpose you will bear in mind all the possible contingencies of adverse winds, and an early winter, which must have occurred to you in your passage from Chamisso Island to Petropaulowski, in September last.

Released from the contingency of having to winter 1849-50 in Behring's Straits, and circumstances requiring that the search along the coast (as directed in our orders to Commander Moore of 3d January 1848, a copy of which is enclosed) should be continued in the spring and summer of 1850, you are to proceed no further to the southward in 1849 than the Sandwich Islands, so as to be ready to make the earliest possible start to rejoin the "Plover" in the beginning of 1850; and you are to understand, with reference to our former orders of 13th December 1847, all such parts of which are to remain in force as relate to your assisting the "Plover" to her winter quarters of 1849-50, that it is now intended that the two ships should endeavour to form a junction or communication in the spring or summer of 1850, and that having together done all that may be possible in that summer in the further prosecution of the search for Sir John Franklin's expedition, they should together, and in company, quit Behring's Straits in the autumn of 1850, in sufficient time to ensure their being well past the Aleutian Islands before the winter of that year shall set in; when the two ships, still keeping company, are to repair to Valparaiso, calling at the Sandwich Islands or other places for refreshments, and to follow the further instructions of the Commander-in-chief in the Pacific.

We can scarcely contemplate the possibility of your not falling in with the "Plover" in 1849; but should such accident arise, you will be careful to leave copies of these instructions at convenient spots, addressed to Commander Moore, for his guidance and information.

On leaving Chamisso Island, for the purpose of quitting Behring's Straits, in the autumn of 1850, you will be guided by your own wants and supplies in leaving such a depôt of stores and provisions for the two ships at that anchorage as might be of the last importance to any party following them, and who might be compelled to winter in that quarter.

V.
Further Instructions to Captain Kellett.