

#### 4 ADMIRALTY INSTRUCTIONS TO CAPTAIN AUSTIN, &c.

or white cross, as the case may be, depositing as near to its base as possible, and at right angles with the perpendicular part of such cross, a bottle or other vessel, containing a short summary of your proceedings up to the date of the deposit; an account of the state of your supplies and resources, the health of your party, and your further intended course.

11. There remains but to caution you as to your return with your ships to this country.

These ships have been provisioned and stored for three years; but you will bear in mind that this liberal supply is to meet contingencies separate on the one hand from the victualling of your own people, and on the other from a needless, reckless, and hazardous continuance in the arctic regions.

You have been victualled to supply the missing expedition, or any part of it you may providentially discover; here is the one contingency: unforeseen impediments, or a certain prospect of coming up with any part of the missing expedition compelling you to pass a second winter in the ice, is the other; but our directions to you are, first, to use your utmost endeavours (consistent with the safety of the lives of those entrusted to your command) to succour in this summer the party under Sir John Franklin, taking care to secure your winter quarters in good time; and 2d, that the same active endeavours will be used by you in the ensuing summer of 1851, to secure the return of your own ships to this country.

12. We refer you to the instructions contained in par. 21 of Sir John Franklin's orders, for your guidance in the event of one of your ships being disabled, or in case of any accident to yourself; and in par. 22 of the same orders, are full instructions as to transmitting reports of your progress to our Secretary, for our information; to both of which you will strictly attend.

13. In conclusion we have only to repeat the expressions of our confidence in your skill, and in your known ardour in a generous cause; and we commend you and those with you to a good Providence, with our earnest wishes for your success.

Given under our hands this 11th April 1850.

(signed) *F. T. Baring.*  
*J. W. D. Dundas.*

By command of their Lordships,  
*W. A. B. Hamilton.*

Mr. William Penny, Ship "Lady Franklin,"  
in charge of an Expedition to the Arctic Seas, at Aberdeen.

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— No. 4. —

COPY of ORDERS from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to Captain *Horatio T. Austin, C.B.*, of Her Majesty's Ship "Resolute," in charge of an Expedition to the Arctic Seas, dated 2 May 1850.

By the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, &c.

1. HAVING appointed you to the command of the expedition which it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government to dispatch on a further search for Her Majesty's ships "Erebus" and "Terror," under the command of Sir John Franklin, you are hereby required and directed to take the vessels named in the margin under your command; and so soon as they are in all respects ready, to put to sea, and to make the best of your way to Davis' Straits, for the express purpose of prosecuting a most vigorous search for the missing ships.

"Resolute,"  
"Assistance,"  
"Intrepid,"  
"Pioneer."

2. We have directed you to be furnished with a copy of our orders, which were given to Sir John Franklin, and which will afford you full information how he was directed to proceed. We have likewise ordered you to have a copy of our instructions to Captain Sir James Ross, and to these we have to direct your especial attention.

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