

ture depended on the probability of some of those cracks taking place, which they had often witnessed, and which made an immediate clearance of the ice. While waiting in this expectation, on the 21st of July Captain Parry dispatched Lieutenant Hoppner once more to examine a bay or river of Cockburn Island, which had not been explored. He was accompanied by two of the crew, and provided with a sledge and dogs. On his return he made the following report of his journey.

"At a quarter past four we left the Hecla, and having reached the head of the bay at half-past six, the party who were there in readiness carried the sledge across the isthmus; after which they returned to the ship. The fog was now so thick that it was impossible to proceed towards Neerlonaktoo, we therefore kept along the land-ice of Igloolik, when supposing ourselves nearly abreast of the former island, we went on shore to wait for better weather.

"Thick foggy weather continued until four in the afternoon on the 22nd, when, it becoming clearer, we recommenced our journey, passing between Neerlonaktoo and three small whitish islands off its south-west end, which at a distance are easily mistaken for hummocks of dirty ice. The ice afterwards began to improve; but we were obliged by several wide cracks extending from Neerlonaktoo to the west land and the islands in Richards's Bay, to go some distance round to find parts sufficiently narrow to cross. At eleven in the evening we pitched our tent on the north-east island in Richards's Bay; the ice was so much broken up all round it that it was with difficulty we landed.

"On the 23rd it rained hard all night, with thick hazy weather, which did not clear away until noon the following day. We immediately prepared to move; but it was twenty-five minutes past one in the afternoon before we got away, owing to the time taken up in shoeing the dogs, which for two people was a tedious operation. We stood directly over towards the north land, finding the ice so bad for the first six or