Journal of Lieutenant Mecham.

S.E. 4 c.

Travelling 91 hours; distance, 31 miles.

Calm. o.b c. Ther. zero.

S.E. 3 c. m. Ther. + 15°.

Travelled 94 hours ; 4 miles.

S.E. 2 c.m.

N.W 2 b.c. Ther.—2.

West, 3 b.c.

Travelling 9 hours; 31 miles.

West, 5 c.q. Ther. zero.

W.S.W. 4 c.q. 9½ hours; 2½ made good. sledges came up; the travelling gradually improving. The men were greatly fagged; I think caused principally from their tramp back with the empty sledges.

NINTH JOURNEY.

Thursday, 30th September 1852.—A. M. S. Loaded sledges with everything, and proceeded under sail. Sent for the deer killed last night; they soon again returned with one haunch, the wolves having eaten all the rest. Noon; halted for luncheon. A great number of reindeer in sight. Observed the blue hills to the N.W.-ward.

P.M. Shot two reindeer, both in very good condition. Came to a broad ravine. 5.30. Encamped at the bottom of it. Found the venison a wonderful improvement to preserved meat; the latter alone is certainly a very unsatisfactory meal after a hard day's work. Triced our meat up to the shears out of reach of the wolves. Bound up James Tullett's hand, which was severely cut while skinning the deer.

TENTH JOURNEY.

Friday, 1st October 1852.—8. Started under sail to the N.W. Observed a great many deer, all of which were scampering about in every direction. Found that the object of their dread was a pack of nine wolves. They ran up within rifle shot of the sledge, but it was evident they were after the deer. During the afternoon we crossed two ravines; steered for a dark headland opposite Liddon's Gulf. My compass to-day has been almost uscless. I intend steering for the bluff as long as possible, as the compass has already been leading us too far to the westward. 5.30. Encamped. A great many deer in sight. Counted 60 in one herd. Found no difficulty in getting within rifle shot, but having as much as we can carry, it would be a pity to fire among them. The travelling to-day has been less fatiguing, having been favoured with a moderate wind from S.E.-ward.

ELEVENTH JOURNEY.

Suturday, 2d October 1852.—8.30. Started. Deer still numerous. Observed a fox, also two wolves, howling most dismally. Crossed two steep ravines and halted in a small lake for luncheon, after passing over a large plain. Went on in advance and mounted a range of hills, from which I observed we were about three and a half miles from the floe in Liddon's Gulf. Erected a cairn as a guide for our route with the sledges. We were now most unpleasantly situated. My own compass has become perfectly uscless; that supplied to Mr. Nares is ill adapted for Arctic travelling, and so hadly fitted, that the glass either fell upon the card or allowed the wind to enter and blow it round. While attempting to remedy the evil, the glass broke and rendered the whole thing uscless.

TWELFTH JOURNEY.

Sunday, 3d October 1852.—A.M. 8.30. Started, following the bed of a ravine to the northward. Our route to day lay between two curious passes through which the travelling was level but very stony. The first of these I named Stony and the second Icicle Pass, from its banks being very curiously fringed with immense icicles. Between these passes the land is rich in moss, about which several reindeer were grazing. This river empties itself into the lagoon mentioned by Sir Edward Parry, and I think the two passes are the same as Captain M^cClintock passed through in 1851. We were unable to get on with the whole of our baggage; we therefore dropped the depót and pushed on towards the beach, encamping at six within 1½ miles of it. I walked on and examined the Esquimaux remains described by Sir Edward Parry, and on my return picked up some pieces of coal which burnt well.

THIRTEENTII JOURNEY.

Monday, 4th October 1852.—Heavy snow drift. 7.15. Started with empty sledges to bring up the depôts from Stony Pass. Noon lunched.

P.M. 1. Started with small sledge packed with bedding, tents, and cooking gear. 4.30. Pitched; left a sick man to cook, and sent the rest back for the second sledge. During their absence I walked across the lagoon and

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