

lott respecting the discovery of the great bay which goes by Hudson's name. Still greater interest was aroused in Hudson's fate. An expedition was despatched in the following year, by Henry, Prince of Wales, and the Muscovy Co. The ships sent out were commanded by Sir Thos. Button, a gentleman of Prince Henry's household. He sought in different directions for Hudson and spent the winter in the bay. His efforts to unveil the mystery were unsuccessful. To him we owe the place-name of Resolution Island, named after his vessel. His winter quarters were on the west coast of the Bay, and there one of his officers, named Nelson, died and was buried. To this circumstance we owe the place-name Fort Nelson, afterwards used to designate the River Nelson and the Lake which is its source.

G. M. Asher says: "Many great men attempted, before and after Hudson's time, to solve the problem of a short northern route to China. But he surpasses all his predecessors and all his followers in the variety of means he employed to obtain that great end . . . Within the last few years of his life he tried first the way across the North Pole; then the way by the north of Spitzbergen, eastward; he attempted to penetrate through the Nova Zembla group. He afterwards tried to cross what seemed a narrow isthmus between the Atlantic and the Pacific in lat. 40. He at last sailed far west-

ward through his Strait and Bay, ending his life in the effort."

It is probable that when he left his wintering place at the southeastern extreme of James Bay he intended to spend the summer of 1611 trying to pass to the west by Davis Strait and Baffin Bay.

He had mapped out in his mind and had actually attempted to solve the problem by all the ways that ocean navigators have since tried to reach the North Pole and to discover a short northern cut from Europe to the land of the yellow race.

He failed. Yet his name is not forgotten. "It is borne by his Strait and by the Bay in which he wintered and died. It is inscribed on the vast territory between the Bay and the ocean. It is affectionately remembered by the millions of human beings now living on those banks which he found scantily inhabited by savage races. He gave to his country the fisheries of Spitzbergen and the fur-trade of the Hudson Bay territories. The Dutch owed to him their North American Colony which, falling into English hands, is now peopled and ruled over by the united descendants of both nations. He has erected for himself a far prouder monument than ever entered his thoughts."

Isaac Taylor says: "Hudson Bay, the American Mediterranean, is both the tomb and the monument of the daring seaman who discovered it."

