

Franklin and his companions had carried those discoveries to which they sacrificed their lives.

Whatever may have been their extent, this is certain, that a North-west Passage having been performed, it was in the search for Sir John Franklin that it was incidentally achieved. It may almost literally be said that it was his spirit which pointed out the way. Future investigations may perhaps determine the precise point of the path of discovery at which it pleased Providence that his labours should cease; but however this may be, it never can be forgotten that it was in the attempt to trace his steps, that this path was successfully pursued, and only because men worthy to be his followers went where they hoped and believed that he had already gone before.

20 July 1855.