

17, Savile Row, 20 January '60.

MY LORD DUKE,—I venture to solicit your Grace's most earnest attention to the following proposal for the despatch of a party upon a land journey for the purpose of completing the search for the remains, and possible survivors, of The Franklin Expedition.

As your Grace may enquire upon what grounds I address you, in reference to a subject which has been dealt with by another department, I venture to observe that almost all Polar Land Journeys, properly so called, that have been despatched under the command of officers appointed by the Crown, have been undertaken under directions emanating from the Secretary of State for the Colonies. And in now pressing upon your Grace the expediency of a further search for the remains of The Franklin Expedition, to be accomplished by means of a land journey from the continent of America, I do not propose that your Grace should assume a responsibility that has not been accepted by former Secretaries of State, under circumstances of far less pressing importance than the present.

Before submitting the particulars of the