

been more than was equal to *forty days'* consumption. Had there been food on board, it seems the height of improbability that Crozier and Fitzjames would, in the first place, have abandoned their ships so long before the Great Fish River was likely to break open, and equally strange that they should not have had the foresight to make a cache of provisions in store, where it would be safe from the risk of shipwreck, to which the Erebus and Terror became doubly liable after the officers and men had abandoned them.

All this, we think, points to two grand facts : that, in the first place, their preserved meats had long been consumed, or become unfit for consumption ; and that, in the second place, *they quitted the ships because all their salt meat and provisions were expended.* Lieutenant Hobson had of course forestalled Captain M'Clintock in the discoveries made here ; but what with the search made by that officer both on his outward and homeward march, as well as that subsequently carried out by Captain M'Clintock over the same ground, there cannot be