

IV.
Instructions to
Sir James Ross.

the way of Lancaster Sound and Barrow's Strait, looking out for the "Investigator" or her boats.

In the event of the "Investigator" or her boats not being fallen in with, the commander of the "North Star" will be directed to land the supplies in sufficient time to secure his return across Baffin's Bay to the eastward, at such points on the south side of Lancaster Sound, or other places of rendezvous indicated by you in your instruction to Captain Bird, as may be accessible to the "North Star;" or should any of these points prove inaccessible to the ship, the commander of her will endeavour to leave notices as to where the provisions are likely to be landed, together with copies of the instructions he is charged with for you.

(signed) *W. A. B. Hamilton.*

Captain Sir James C. Ross.

— V. —

V.
Further Instructions to Captain Kellett.

FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS to Captain *Kellett*, of Her Majesty's Ship "Herald."

BY the Commissioners for executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, &c.

You are hereby required and directed, immediately on the receipt of this despatch, to fill up with all the provisions the "Herald" will stow, and such water as may be necessary for the voyage, reserving a due space for an ample supply of fuel (coal) for the "Plover." You are to have due regard to the probable amount of provision remaining in the "Plover" (*vide* enclosed return of Comptroller of Victualling's Report of 31 January 1849, by which you will see the amount of provisions supplied to that ship, and the number of her crew). You will bear in mind that it is to enable the "Plover" to pass the winter of 1849-50 in Behring's Straits, that you are now to replenish that ship with provisions, as well as to supply sufficient for Sir John Franklin's party of 138 men for six weeks, should they happily be fallen in with; and you will be the best judge, therefore, not only of the amount required to be taken on board the "Herald," but also of her capacity to carry such addition to her general cargo; and you will be guided by these circumstances in leaving behind you, or on board the "Pandora," or any of Her Majesty's ships, the stores, guns, &c. with which you might be able to dispense, as well as all unserviceable and weakly men (reserving only such number of seamen and marines as may be absolutely necessary for the service on which you will be engaged), so as to make room for these provisions.

You will be guided by the circumstances of the case, when you receive this despatch, as to purchasing provisions and stores, under the proper article of the Admiralty instructions, for this service; or taking medical or other stores from the "Pandora" ordered home, or demanding them of any other of Her Majesty's ships that shall be upon the spot; and in the last-mentioned case such supplies are at once to be granted to you, by the officers in command of such ships, as can be spared without positive detriment and inconvenience to the public service and to their own crews. You will bear in mind the comparative facility of procuring supplies, and the abundance afforded at Woahoo, at which port you will have to touch.

On your having thus completed provisions, as far as the means at Panama will admit, you are to lose no time in taking your departure from the coast of Mexico, so as, if possible, to reach Woahoo by the 1st May.

In the event of your finding the "Plover" at Woahoo, to which port she may have fallen back from a late arrival at Behring's Straits, you are to use your utmost exertion to complete her with all necessaries and provisions, so that the "Herald" and "Plover" may take their departure in company by the 10th of May, or as soon after as may be practicable, and proceed together direct to Behring's Straits.

Having