

TP- 2993

ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.

FURTHER RETURN to an ORDER of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 15 March 1849;—for,

COPIES or EXTRACTS "of any PROCEEDINGS or CORRESPONDENCE of the Admiralty, in reference to the ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS.—(In continuation of Parliamentary Papers, Nos. 264 and 336, of Session 1848, up to the present time.)"

Admiralty, }  
19 April 1849. }

T. CROFTON CROKER,  
For the Chief Clerk.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed, 20 April 1849.

RETURN of the OPINIONS of the most experienced Officers connected with the ARCTIC EXPEDITIONS, on the Necessity of sending a Ship to the Entrance of Lancaster Sound, with Supplies for Sir James Ross's Expedition; and their joint OPINION as to certain Measures proposed to be adopted.

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— No. 1. —

REMARKS of Captain Sir W. Edward Parry, on the Mode of Communicating with Sir James Ross, and rendering further Assistance for the Relief of Sir John Franklin's Expedition.

Opinion of Captain Sir W. Edward Parry.

Haslar Hospital, 8 January 1849.

HAVING given my best attention to the subject of your communication of the 4th inst., a subject which we cannot but feel to be one of increasing anxiety and importance, I now submit to you the following observations:

The whole question of additional effort for the discovery and safety of Sir John Franklin and his gallant companions appears to resolve itself, at present, into the nature of the communication to be opened with Sir James Ross, or rather with his colleague, Captain Bird, in the summer of the present year.

I may first, however, glance at the probable nature and extent of the operations of that expedition, during the season of 1848.

As the "Enterprize" and "Investigator" did not reach the entrance of Lancaster Sound till the 28th of August, we cannot reckon upon the "Enterprize" having had more than 20 days for continuing the navigation till the approach of winter (indicated especially by the formation of "young ice") would render further efforts difficult and dangerous, if not altogether impracticable, for I find that this obstruction became very serious in 1819, about the 17th September.

Judging, however, from what the ships under my command were enabled to effect in that year, I should hope the "Enterprize" would be able during the