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DEAR SIR,—The interest taken by you in every branch of science connected with the Maritime welfare of this Country and above all the manner in which you have promoted the Progress of Arctic Geography, and the attempts to discover a North West Passage have encouraged me to lay before you a plan for the prosecution of an Expedition over land to the mouth of the Mc'Kenzie's River and thence along the Shore to the North Western extremity of America.

I am well aware that the sympathy excited in the British Public by the sufferings of those engaged in the late Journey to the Mouth of the Copper Mine River and the humane repugnance of the British Government to a like fate, even though they themselves might be ready to encounter it will occasion many to startle at the mention of another Land Expedition.

I trust however to shew satisfactorily that in the proposed course similar dangers are not to be apprehended, while the objects to be attained are important at once to the Naval Character and to the Commercial Interests of Great Britain.

On the former occasion the party left England without any previous notice Either to the Traders residing in those parts of America or the Indians, and without any preparation for its approach.

The Expedition and its objects were alike strange to those among whom it came, and they not knowing in what estimation to regard either, it had to fight its way step by step against increasing obstacles while the animosity then existing between the Hudson's Bay and the North West Company rendered any assistance received from the one, a Source of Suspicion, and Jealousy in the other.

From this cause originated the injurious reports spread by Mr. Weeks, to which, may be mainly attributed the neglect and reluctance of the Copper Indians, and many of the disasters which ensued.

Notwithstanding these disadvantages and the Labour attending the obstructed navigation of the Copper Mine River, the difficulties encountered during the voyage to the Sea and along the Coast were only such as Courage and Prudence could surmount, and it was not till its return across the Barren lands, that the Expedition experienced the horrors of Famine or indeed any serious inconvenience. It had then to march through the most dreary and desolate part of North America, where the want of fuel and Herbage renders the animals few in number, and the Indians rare and precarious visitors.

Nevertheless the party would probably have been able to procure subsistence but for a sudden and premature Winter which caused every living thing immediately to migrate to the South. The nature and resources of the Country are now much better understood, the Rival Companies have united, the Directors here are desirous of the prosecution of the inquiry; and its Agents abroad will be prepared by their order to assist and respect those who may be appointed.

The navigation of the Mc'Kenzie's River is free from Ice at an early period of the Summer and impeded only by one Rapid of any Consequence. The posts in its vicinity are better supplied with Food, and continued a