

windings, we had some trouble in consequence of each side of the stream being overflowed by the salt water forced up by the recent high tides to a depth of twelve or fourteen inches.

Sunday, 5th.—About half an hour after sunrise we left Cove-a-ruk for the ship, feeling thoroughly refreshed by a long sleep. The weather was exceedingly favourable for travelling, and we had crossed the large lake, and entered the gorge leading from it to Grantley Harbour at 1 A.M. Throughout the gorge the ice was completely gone from mid channel, and parties of natives were numerous on both sides, attracted by the abundance of fish which they were employed in catching. These people were very eager in their inquiries for Mr. Cooper and the rest of our party, and I was forcibly impressed with the idea that they had heard some rumour of the attack upon Darabin, and were in doubt whether Mr. Cooper might not have been the victim instead of Lieutenant Barnard, of whom they could know but little. As soon as I could satisfy their curiosity I engaged a native to conduct me clear of the dangerous patches of ice, and arrived on board at 5 P.M.

THOMAS BOURCHIER,
Acting Second Master.

Enclosure 16 in No. 10.

Orders to Commander MOORE.

“Memo.”

You will proceed to Michaelowski, and there obtain any stores that the Governor General of Russian America has forwarded for your use by the annual vessel which visits that port. It is also probable that a detachment of Aleutian Islanders will be brought up by the same vessel to co-operate in the objects of the expedition. These you will embark to reinforce your crew, and then return here, where having taken, if it is in your power by the reinforcement you have received, every precaution for the custody of the stores left behind, you are to use your discretion in proceeding to the north, and obtain any information from the natives which your knowledge of the language will enable you to do, so as to afford their Lordships the latest report of the progress of the search in this direction. Having accomplished this object, you will return to this port, and in the event of none of Her Majesty's ships arriving, from whom you will receive such a change in your crew as will enable you to winter here without risking the health of those afflicted with the scurvy last season, you are to proceed to Hong Kong.

Should the assistance which you receive from the Russian authorities not be sufficient safely to guard the deposit of stores at this place, they and the “Owen” are to be removed to Michaelowski, making a cache here of such articles as are most likely to prove useful to parties that may fall back on this port, and enable them to reach that place with greater facility.

You will take every opportunity of communicating with the Secretary of the Admiralty and the Commander-in-chief in the Pacific.

Given under my hand on board Her Majesty's Ship “Enterprize” in Port Clarence, this 9th day of July 1851.

Commander Moore, H.M.S. “Plover.”

RD. COLLINSON, Captain.

No. 11.

Mr. BEATSON to the SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY.

Sir,

36, Moorgate Street, London,
6th February 1852.

I BEG most respectfully to forward to you the enclosed particulars of an expedition which I am fitting out to search for Sir John Franklin to the north and east of Behring's Straits, and with which I leave England about the end of this month.

I have, &c.

DONALD BEATSON.

Enclosure in No. 11.

LETTER from Mr. BEATSON to Sir RODERICK MURCHISON, the President of the Royal Geographical Society.

Sir,

36, Moorgate Street, 12th Jan. 1852.

THE subject of search for Sir John Franklin having been so frequently discussed by the members of this scientific society, and others well acquainted with the navigation of the Polar regions, I think it would be presumptuous in me to attempt an explanation of my reasons for commencing the search from the north-west of Behring's Straits. I believe that many