

that season was given up, would leave no documentary notices of his intention to return to England, which he made up his mind to do, when it was evident in September (but not before) that he must either do so or pass another winter there, after which he could have only one year's provisions.

The above being the grounds on which I have formed my opinion, I have only to add that the piece of wood will be carried from the "Felix" to the Admiralty when I shall be ready to give any further information that may be required by their Lordships.

I am, &c.

JOHN ROSS, Rear-Admiral.

No. 9.

The SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY to Lord STANLEY OF ALDERLEY.

My Lord,

Admiralty, 29th September 1851.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith copies of a letter from the Hudson's Bay Company, dated 27th instant, and of one from Rear-Admiral Sir John Ross, who has returned from an expedition to the Arctic seas in search of Sir John Franklin and party, and I am to request that Viscount Palmerston will communicate this paper* to the Danish Government, and obtain from them any information on the subject which they may have received.

I have, &c.

W. A. B. HAMILTON.

No. 10.

Sir JOHN ROSS to the SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY.

Sir,

267, Strand, London, 4th October 1851.

THE officers commanding the expeditions under the orders of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty and those sent by the American Government, having deemed it necessary that a "vessel of retreat" should be left at the entrance of the Wellington Channel, I acceded to their proposal to leave at Cape Spencer my yacht, the "Mary," which, being supplied by the different ships with stores, provisions, and fuel, was hauled up in that position accordingly, and notices of which were left by the different travelling parties at the different stations they visited, as noted in the reports of each vessel, and in the enclosed document for Captain Austin.

I am to request that you will be pleased to lay this statement, with Captain Austin's letter, before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and to move their Lordships to grant me a compensation for the loss of this vessel, which was my private property, amounting to 190*l.* sterling.

I am, &c.

JOHN ROSS, Rear-Admiral.

No. 11.

Captain AUSTIN's Cognizance of the foregoing.

Sir John Ross has requested me to give him in writing my cognizance of the circumstances under which he left a decked boat as a depôt near Cape Spencer. They were as follows; viz.

Sir John Ross informed me of his intention to leave his decked boat at Cape Spencer in August 1850, and proposed that provisions and clothing should be left in her. I readily consented (with the other expeditions then present) to aid in the measure, and accordingly placed on board her a limited quantity of provisions and a bale of blankets.

I have always considered this boat as a depôt upon which any of the expeditions prosecuting the search beyond Cape Spencer might fall back in the event of necessity.

Original value of the "Mary"	£ 150
Doubling and strengthening	36
Provisions and fuel left	4
	£ 190

H.M.S. "Resolute," crossing the Wellington Barrow's Strait, 12th August 1851.

HORATIO T. AUSTIN.

N.B.—Notices of the "Mary" being hauled at Cape Spencer are left at the different positions visited by the officers of the "Resolute," "Assistance," "Lady Franklin," "Sophia," and "Felix," as well as at the extremes.

* Deposition of Adam Beck in the Esquimaux language.