

any force the natives can bring, should they be hostile.*

“ Leaving this party at the rendezvous, the Blossom may proceed to examine the coast, assisted by her decked launch, keeping in-shore of her; and signals can then be regularly placed on every conspicuous cape or height, according to the mode agreed upon, for the purpose of directing Captain Franklin's attention to bottles containing written information, which will be buried at each station.

“ In this manner it is proposed, circumstances permitting, to navigate from Kotzebue's Sound northward, and then eastward as far as the state of the ice will allow, following up every opening, and never quitting the main shore. The distance to which the ship can proceed to the eastward will be limited by the lateness of the season, and the necessity of avoiding the hazard of being beset in the ice and obliged to winter.

“ Fog-signals and night-lights will of course be established between the launch and the ship; and should the launch part company with the ship, it will proceed to the last formed signal station, and there await the junction of the ship; but if she does not arrive there in five days, the launch is to prosecute the voyage along shore, in search of Captain Franklin, but not to go so far as to put the certainty of returning to Chamisso Island by the 30th of September at any risk, by which date the ship will also have arrived there; and Captain Franklin will proceed to the same place should he not have met either the ship or launch before.

* This erroneous idea was suggested by Captain Kotzebue's account of the island, arising no doubt from a bad translation.