

Part III.
Correspondence,
&c. in reference to
the Expedition.

Having received my provisions, Her Majesty's Ship "Herald" shall be ready to proceed at the time directed, and, having arrived at the field of our operations, I can assure you, sir, no means shall be left untried to carry out their Lordships' order. Trusting that our exertions may be rightly directed, and ultimately crowned with success,

I have, &c.

The Secretary of the Admiralty,
London.

(signed) *Henry Kellett*,
Captain.

Statistical Society of London, 12, St. James'-square,
3 March 1848.

Sir,

I BEG to remind you, that on the 16th ultimo I volunteered my services to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to proceed to the western land of North Somerset, by the Great Fish River, in search of Sir John Franklin.

The 15th instant is the latest period I should feel justified in starting upon this expedition; and as I am not aware of having written anything to cause their Lordships to withhold a reply, and as I have to make arrangements to vacate my appointments as Physician to the London and Provincial Life Office, Physician to the Blenheim-street Dispensary, Physician to the St. George's and St. James's Lying-in Charity, Honourable Secretary of the Ethnological Society of London, and Assistant Secretary of the Statistical Society of London, I need scarcely state that it is important I should have very early information of their Lordships' decision.

I shall only be too happy to explain to you by chart my plan, in the same way that I did to Mr. Hawes, when I was in official communication with Earl Grey; and, in conclusion, I beg to say, that I am induced thus to urge the matter upon the consideration of the Board, from the fact that I have given the subject the most mature and deliberate consideration, and am convinced that my plan will be eventually proved to be the only effectual one for discovering the lost expedition.

I have, &c.

Henry George Ward, Esq.,
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) *Richard King*.

Sir,

3 March 1848.

IN reply to your letters of this day's date and of the 16th ultimo, offering your services to proceed to the western land of North Somerset, by the Great Fish River, in search of the expedition under Captain Sir John Franklin, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, that they have no intention of altering their present arrangements, or of making any other that will require your assistance, or force you to make the sacrifices which you appear to contemplate.

I have, &c.

To Dr. King, Statistical Society of London,
12, St. James'-square.

(signed) *H. G. Ward*.

Sir,

Admiralty, 18 March 1848.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, that you have been ordered to be paid 400*l.* per annum whilst employed under Sir John Richardson, and the Accountant-general of the Navy has been ordered to pay to you six months' advance. Your pay is to commence from the 1st instant.

I am, &c.

Dr. J. Rae
(care of Sir J. Richardson),
Athenæum.

(signed) *W. A. B. Hamilton*.