

But the portion of his journal covering the two months of September and October has disappeared; either the mutineers destroyed it or (probably) Prickett kept it, used it in preparing his "larger discourse," and then destroyed it to prevent its statements being used against himself and his shipmates.

It seems clear, however, that all the movements which so perplexed Prickett were made by Hudson for the purpose of ascertaining whether there was a water communication between the south and the west shores of Hudson Bay, including James Bay and the great inland sea, of whose existence he was positive. He did here as he had done on his first voyage, when for fifty days he was dodging about now in this and now in that direction, seeking at various points to penetrate the ice barrier and sail over the North Pole.

By the 10th of November, old style, or 20th, new style, Hudson's vessel was frozen in. The ship had supplies for six months. But it was uncertain how long they would have to remain in what I may call Frozen-in-Bay. Hudson, therefore, ordered short commons, and offered a reward to those of his crew who killed either beast, fish or fowl. "In the space of three months," says Prickett, "we had such a store of one kind (which were partridges as white as milk) that we killed about an hundred dozen, besides others of sundry kinds." In the spring these fowl left them, and in their place came divers sort of other fowl, as "swanne, gease, duck and teale." In time these flew to the north. "Then went the men," says Prickett, "into the woods, hills and valleys for all things that had any show of substance in them, how vile soever—the moss of the ground (than which I take the powder of a post to be much better) and the frog were not spared." In their long season of idleness scurvy seems to have visited them, but fortunately one of the crew brought home buds of a tree full of a turpentine substance, and of this the surgeon made a decoction to drink, and applied the buds hot to them that were troubled with ache in any part of

the body, all receiving great and present ease of pain," as Prickett states. Probably it was from the same species of tree that Cartier obtained a remedy for the scurvy, which carried off so many of his men in the winter of 1535-36, as they wintered near Quebec.

When the ice began to break a savage came to the ship. Hudson treated him well, hoping to receive valuable information from him. The savage described the country as well peopled, and after bartering beaver skins for knives and beads and a hatchet, departed, promising to return after so many "sleeps," but that was the last they saw of him.

The ice having gone out of the sounds, some of the men went fishing to fill up the larder. Others took in wood, water and ballast. Hudson himself fitted out the shallop with provisions, and with others of the crew started off along the coast, hoping to meet some of the natives and obtain from them flesh and other provisions, but they would not let him come near, setting fire to the woods on his approach and decamping. He was compelled to return empty-handed.

Soon after his return, the wind serving, they weighed anchor and stood out of the bay in which they had spent 227 days, and on the 18th of June they encountered ice.

Some of the crew had been hatching a conspiracy during the long winter. They objected to spending another summer in exploring. They wanted to get home as soon as possible; as one of them expressed it, "he would rather be hanged at home than starved abroad." Robert Juet, who for insubordination had been deposed from his position as mate, and Henry Greene, who had a personal grievance against Hudson, were the ringleaders and they had poisoned the minds of several of the crew. The first plan they concocted was to seize the shallop and the net and leave the ship. But this was unintentionally frustrated by Hudson, who, as we have seen, took the shallop for his expedition. Their second plan