

numerous fiords, which would require the assistance of natives and their light boats, and as no tidings can possibly reach England from the vessels sent out in search until it may be perhaps too late to undertake an effectual land expedition, and as Sir J. Ross might also be closed up, I would propose for the consideration of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the following plan as a last resource, and which I have every reason to believe would prove successful in discovering their fate, and rescuing them if still in existence.

No. 11.  
Letter from Rear-Admiral Tayler, C. B., to Captain Hamilton, R. N.

My son, from his knowledge of the country and the habits of the Esquimaux, and being acquainted with two respectable and steady young men, natives of Greenland, but of Danish parents, speaking correctly both the Danish and Esquimaux languages, and several confidential older men also acquainted with both languages, one of them speaking English, would, with the aid of some or all of these men, four Esquimaux, and some of our own people, undertake to conduct a land and water expedition combined, to examine all the fiords in Barrow Straits, from longitude about 80 deg. to 110 deg., and if no tidings were discovered, would examine Banks Land and all its fiords the following summer.

They would be provided with Esquimaux dogs and sledges, the Esquimaux would have their seal-skin boats, and there would be required a schooner and launch fitted as a steam-boat, to burn oil, and supplied with every requisite to accompany the land expedition along the coast and transport them across the creeks, &c.; they would also have portable boats for passing any water the launch could not reach; by this means all the coast and inlets would be examined, making signals, &c. at the bottom of every fiord.

Judging from his enterprise, health and bodily strength, and general knowledge, I am confident he would accomplish what he undertook to perform. He has frequently travelled with Esquimaux 20 miles per day along the coast in search of minerals, many specimens of which he brought to England, and presented some to the British Museum, and by request of Mr. Gray, secretary F.R.S., communicated with Dr. Barclay of the Hudson Bay Company. Whilst in Greenland he made an interesting geological discovery, an account of which he is about sending to the Royal Society.

An undertaking of the above description offers every chance of determining the fate of our brave countrymen, and would crown the laudable endeavours of the Admiralty with general approbation.

Captain W. A. B. Hamilton,  
&c. &c. &c., Admiralty.

I have, &c.  
(signed) J. N. Tayler,  
Rear Admiral, C. B.

— No. 12. —

COPY of a LETTER from Mr. W. P. Snow, late of the "Prince Albert" Discovery Vessel, to Captain W. A. B. Hamilton, R. N., Secretary of the Admiralty, proposing an Expedition, consisting of a small Vessel and suitable Boats, to proceed to *Lancaster Sound* and *Griffith's Island* early in 1851.

No. 12.  
Letter from Mr. W. P. Snow to Captain Hamilton, R. N.

8, Clifton Terrace, West Brompton,  
9 January 1851.

Sir,

It is not with any presumptuous feeling that the accompanying notes and observations (part of them originally intended for private use) are worthy of especial notice, that I venture to forward them; but conceiving that there might possibly be some little fact in them that may be found useful, as connected with the missing expedition, and the gallant ships now engaged on the search, I beg the honour of your placing them before their Lordships at your convenience.

With regard to myself and the proposition I have made, I must observe that it has only been done because the plan I submit comes from myself, and consequently I should not hesitate to incur the danger and carry out the undertaking. I am sure I have no desire to put myself prominently forward when there are so many noble and brave men more deserving the honour; and although I should indeed feel proud of such a position as that I have named being conferred upon me, I can only express my sincere regret that I have no claim for it beyond the