

March. of Snow, and one Gale of Wind; little more than Cold, and little Frost. But on the eighteenth the Morning proved close with a hard Frost, and it Froze very Hard all that Day and Night, with severe Cold. The nineteenth clear, pleasant Weather with Sun-shine, a Rime in the Morning, Froze but little, and not very Cold. Upon the twentieth Captain *Smith*, began to cut the *California* out of the Ice, or to dig the Ice away from the Ship, six Feet distance around her, and as deep as within two Inches of the Water. In order that the Ship being freed from all the Ice, might be able to Float upon the coming down of any Flood, or Land-water. Most of the People were so well recovered, as to be able to assist, and having warm pleasant Weather, with no Frost but in the Nights, executed it in less than three Days, the same Work, which cost Captain *Moor's* People near a Fortnight on the Account of the Weather. This Work is done with Ice-Chiffels, Axes, and Baskets to laid out the Ice. The Trench which was made round the Ship, (excepting a small Part of the Ice, left at the Head, and Astern, and on one Side,) was eight Feet deep; and the Ship was supported in it by Shores. This thickness of Ice, was caused by the over-flowing of the Tides, which came up through the Cracks of the Ice, or by the Water Hóles, which were cut in the Ice, for freshening the Meat. The Ice in the Channels of *Hay's* River, being no more than three and twenty Inches Thick.

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