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JOHN HUDSPET

JOURNAL
1815

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" Love letters. People
would have been in the
2000s, all the time
- and then in the
last 100 years

to the last 100 years
to be exact.

Day 3 - of course
with a few more
years from the
beginning - and is completely
a 100% of 100%

Day 4 - 100% of 100%
- 100% of 100%
to every other year

A Voyage
from
London
to
Hudsons Bay
in
NTH AMERICA
On Board the
Hudlow, Capt: Davidoon
A.D. 1615



Preface —

Before beginning a journal of this voyage it may be necessary to anticipate a little the nature of it. — It is under the auspices of the Hon^{ble} Hudson's Bay Company but principally under the direction and expense of the Earl of Selkirk who has long indulged in the scheme of it may be so called, of peopling uncultivated tracts of land. — He settled since Cades^{rs} Island, and some parts of Canada where he has estates and now he is colonizing some of the territory belonging to Hudson's Bay.

The first settlers were sent out about 5 years ago and others since, at present he has obtained a grant from Government to send out from 150 to 100 which are to be collected from the North-west parts of Scotland. — A Ship called the *Hudson* built at Quebec quite new & well adapted for the purpose, has been chartered, she proceeds first to Thine to take in the Emigrants, from thence to Stovinsop to join the two other Hudson's Bay Ships the *Prince of Wales* & the *Edinburgh*. — Our first destination is to York Fort in Hudson's Bay where she discharges her passengers, and then proceeds down the Bay to Moose River in James Bay to take in a cargo of Deers.

Two or three gentlemen besides myself in different capacities. — my province is to take charge of their health during the

Regent - another goes to superintend their
the concourse. - and a Capt Rogers goes
make observations as to the practicality
of extending the Colony considerably
but more especially to enquire into the
nature of the soil and mineral produc-
tions and the facility with which they
may be worked. a miner from Corn-
wall accompanies him for this purpose.

This slight and imperfect sketch
will convey such a vague idea as I my-
self was able to form on the subject.
I hope it will be more fully eluci-
dated in the subsequent pages.

May 31st 1815

The Harlow lays at Gravesend in com-
pany with the two West^{Ind} Company's Ships
Edystone & Prince of Wales. - They
were to have proceeded on their voyage
today, but owing to some cause of delay
they were not paid. - The Company
or at least a few of the Committee
arrived at Gravesend in the forenoon
and this being announced by a signal
from the shore. - the Ships fired a
salute with all their guns. - About 2
o'clock the Earl of Selkirk came on
Board & followed by several other gen-
tlemen to see the Ship.

This Lordship appears to be a man
of few words but profound thought,
his mind seems completely set on the
completion of his present views, which
has been his hobby horse for many
years and which costs him an ample sum
of £12,000 without any probability

of realising any advantage from it.
The intention is a good one and I hope
it will succeed and prosper to the extent
of his wish. - Nothing which is necessary
for their use & comfort is overlooked by him
even to Pots and Pans. which he enquired
into and investigated with the greatest
minute care. - Soon after his Lordship
was gone a firing from the other Ships in-
formed us that the Company were
gone on shore. This served also as a signal
for dinner. - consequently I repaired on
shore with Capt Davison to the Falcon
 Tavern where a most excellent dinner
was served up in superior style. The
Governor of the West^{Ind} Comp^y Mr Baring
presided. - a very agreeable man - the
whole party was 21 in number, consisting
of Lord Selkirk - his brother Mr Wedderburn
now Lord Athol & other Gentlemen of the
Committee. - The Surgeons of the Ships
including myself. - Gentlemen who have
been in Hudsons Bay & their serving out
- the Secretary & Clerks of the
Hudsons Bay House. - After the usual
toasts the gentlemen soon retired, and
returned on Board the Ship in preference
to sleeping on shore.

June 2nd About 8 o'clock today the
Ships got under way and proceeded
towards Sea - brought up at the
Hore close to the Town of Shoarshoep.
Where we must wait for our Comvy
& Mr. P. Dec is appointed to that service

3 Colonists are already come on board. - Their contract with Lord Selkirk is to serve his Lordship, at his Establishment in Rupert's Land for two years, in consideration for which, they are individually granted and put in possession of 50 acres of Land on Red River at the expiration of that term. One man who has his wife with him is to serve an additional year on her account. - These are all raw country lads from 18 to 21 or 22. -

Capt. Rogers embarked this morning, he is appointed 1st Lieut. of the Settlers by Lord S. - appears a well informed, sociable & agreeable man.

2 Saturday, June 3rd. Have continued at the Cove all day. - waiting upon our conveyance and probably we may have to wait some days longer. -

This Morning I went ashore to their camp with Capt. Elison and came off again in 2 hours or so. - It has blown a fresh breeze from the westward all day.

Sunday, June 4th. The wind is fair, with the Captains gloomy countenance is smothered dissatisfaction at our delay.

At noon however the signal is made for sailing; cheerfully & expeditiously it is obeyed. - propitious gales continue to waft us along the coast of our own much loved Isle - We passed

the beautiful little town of Belfast about 8 P.M. - The shades of night approaching obscured the Coast. we hauled more out to Sea; our little Fleet seemed to glide smoothly over the sportive sparkling waves, which a clear & serene Sky could be seen with glittering silvery lustre.

Monday, June 5th. A sullen calm pervaded the whole of the day, with occasional Mist & rain.

Tuesday, June 6th. The weather rather disagreeable - foggy cold & windy but amply compensated for by a fine propitious breeze which has forwarded us 100 miles on our journey. - My time is generally divided between reading and writing, principally the latter the weather being so favourable for the purpose. -

For a while, indeed, all the forenoon we lost our conveyance the Dead one of our Consorts the Prince of Wales, the Cadystone continued in company with us. - In the evening we all met and continue in company.

Wednesday, June 7th. The early part of the morning very rainy but throughout the remainder of the day extremely fine, with pleasant, but light breezes. - At present we may be about opposite Barnwich upon Tweed.

Thursday, June 8. Breakfast
table this morning exhibited rather
a scene of contention. - Since we left
the Hore, - Capt. Harrison has betrayed
a most peevish, captious, miserable
temper. & a disposition which forbids
rather a disagreeable voyage.

Being determined to bear no indigni-
ties, it was necessary to bring him
to an early explanation, which Capt.
Rogers found necessary to do this morn-
ing, who told him his mind and true
opinion of him in a very dignified
and strong manner, and insisted upon
being treated as gentlemen.

Tyrants are always cowards. - when
opposed with courage he immediately
became submissive and disinterested
compromise matters and his depart-
ment since has been what it ought
to be.

The weather the whole of this
day has been uniformly fine, with
light winds and calms.

Friday, June 9th. Another clear
morning day, however the snow or
frost having a bushier beige than for
the few last days. About 10 AM we
came in sight of the Scotch coast and
ly opposite Aberdeen. - but at a great
distance. - The Peoples of Peterhead
could only be seen obscurely through
the clouds of smoke that enwrap
the coast, arising from the burning

of Kelp. - When opposite Buchanan's,
a large Hill called Howe & Marmon
bowed the view to the Northward, un-
till we passed a little further & then
the coast from Kinnaird Head to Barm-
ness, into view. - a few scattered towns
are straggled along this coast, the
country exhibiting rather a bare
bleak appearance and unimproved
trees. - a striking contrast to the
shores of Kent and Essex which we but
a few days have left. - Off Kinnaird
Head we spoke the Commodore and
parted from the company to make
the best of our way towards Dun-
gally Head, the NE point of Scotland.

The Ship being running better
than 8 Miles an hour, I started to
bed a little earlier than usual, that
I might be up in the morning to re-
gale my eyes with the prospects
that Gaithness might afford.

Saturday, June 10th. At 10 o'clock
this morning I rose and found the ship
within a few miles of Dun-
gally Head. I immediately looked for John's great
house which I viewed on the top of the
cliff. - On approaching nearer the point
to be an oval tower which forms a
perpendicular pillar rising above the
summit of the cliff, which at a distance
has something of the appearance of a
tower. - From this it may have acquired
its name. - Many tall towers are visible

pointed with this, they come a long way to see John's Goat's house but we happened to find it but a Rock. I am informed however that there is actually live a man of the name of John Goat. - However the place is far from being devoid of natural curiosities for several other lofty rocks or pillars rise perpendicularly out of the water, some with the surface of the cliff, besides many caverns and arches.

On coming round this headland we enter the Pentland Firth a narrow Channel formed by the Orkney Isles on one side and Caithness on the other. - Here the Sea is never calm the contrary tides and the currents form here a most tremendous contest. - In the middle of the Firth about 2 miles distant from the main land we passed the little Island of Brodgar famous for its natural monuments or uncorrupted bodies of the dead which it is said preserve a flexibility in their limbs for ages. - Our Pilot pretends to account for it from the dryness of the soil. -

Several Huts and Hamlets with a few decent farm houses are strewn along this dreary looking coast. - we passed a Church with a band of people to it at a place called Comingsby. - a little further on the Castle of May

the seat of the Earl of Caithness. - ~~about~~ we went along rapidly to Dunnet Head which bounds the Bay of Thurso however the tide turned against us and hung us without being able to advance one yard, altho' we had the advantage of a good wind. - At last we got into the Bay and anchored in Thurso Roads about 12 o'clock. - After dinner the Captain Capt. Rogers & I went ashore. - I made some enquiries about the Puffin but could learn nothing. - In going ashore in the boat we had to pass close past a young lady who was bathing, whatever be the feelings of modesty of the Thurso ladies I know not, it is not for me to determine, but this one did not seem at all ashamed, on the contrary just as we were opposite her she began washing her neck and shoulders and lastly her Naked Thighs.

While perambulating the Street I saw a woman standing on the Street collecting dice off a Child's head & carrying them to the wind. - I searched for cleanliness. - But I don't by any means wish to disparage Thurso for it is far from being a despicable place. It is of some size composed of one principal Street and a Labyrinth of lanes & alleys there are several good Shops and it seems to be a place of some Commerce. The little river Thurso runs past the town, it

and small vessels, and produce a
number of Salmon. - a remarkable
Caught of Salmon is yet remembered by
some of the old ones of Thurso, no less than
2500 were caught in one Tide. - Two
small vessels were lying in the harbour
one loading meal the other discharging
wreals, these offices are performed by the
seamen only, who carry immense loads
of Coals upon their shoulders in Baskets
which are sustained in their place by
a rope that comes round the breast. the
men fill the Baskets and left their loads
upon their shoulders & then lay down as
their ease until they return again, and
with shame to it spoken the Castlewomen
are the only Beasts of Burthen.

I could not help remarking that
there were comparatively few idle women
and not one man to be seen at work
of any description but most of them
telling on the Grass or standing at
the ends of Houses. - This indolent
disposition may in a great mea-
sure be attributed to their propensity
to drinking large quantities of Whisky.

Round I crossed the river by a little
Foot Bridge and here we met with
two very polite young gentlemen
who volunteered their company.
They first showed us the House and
apparatus for boiling Salmon and they

are so prepared before they are sent to
London, so that the Londoners eat their
Salmon cooked at Thurso. - We then
went to look at Thurso Castle the seat of
the Right Hon^{ble} Sir John Sinclair a small
and ancient but a very neat mansion.

Next we walked up the side of the river
and crossed a very handsome Bridge of
3 Arches over to Thurso. - the entrance to
the town at this part has a very respect-
able appearance. - a range of fine houses
extend a little way up resembling on a
small scale Prince's Street in Edinburgh
with the South Bridge. - It was in ancient
plans to build on this plan to some extent
but it has been relinquish'd for want of
money. - We now took a walk into the
Country where we saw very agreeable in-
dustries that was every where employ'd
and a great deal of barren uncultivated waste not
a spot is to be seen that don't do homage
to the power of the Furrow.

One of our new Friends ^{and} ~~was~~ ^{accompanied us}
to his father's house where we received
a hearty welcome and were well enter-
tain'd until the time oblig'd us to depart
our worthy host accompanied us part of
the way and invited us to breakfast next
morning. - his Son on our return accom-
panied us all the way, and being first

joined by one young gentleman then
another one partly dismounted to battle
we reached the beach - we went onto
a Highland Boat and had some Whisky
and got on board about 10 o'clock, then
quite daylight, for at present there is
no real darkness in this part of the coun-
try.

Sunday June 11th Unfortunately
the day proved very wet and disagree-
able, however we went ashore to make
good our engagement - Mr Paton our
worthy and disinterested & hospitable
friend lives about 3 miles from where
the Ship lies and Capt. Rogers being
labouring under a Liver complaint
could not walk fast so that we did
not arrive much before 10 o'clock,
however we met with a hearty wel-
come and a good breakfast, we intended
to go to Church but none of the family
went, from the badness of the day.

Dinner was prepared early that we
might go in the afternoon, but before
dinner was half over it was announced
that it was too late for Church, which
was rather a disappointment, for I had
heard the Presbyterian Minister well
spoken of. Besides the Established Church
there are 2 Seceder Meetings a Baptist
& Methodist Congregation - At each of

believe these Seceders are permitted every
Sunday one in Gaelic & 2 in English
If it did not appear too painful I would
give an account of our bite of fare at
Johnny Groat's - but it will serve to show
that in Gaithness they neither are
wanting in hospitality nor in the means
of entertaining strangers - Our Board
consisted under a Lent of Good House
Kail & Potatoes - a Pigeon Pie, a dish
of curried Mutton, a nice pudding and
Whiff-pie, cream with some excellent
Gloucester Cheese - Lentils, oat Cakes
and Bannocks of barley Meal; the above
deluges with plenty of some Beer,
Porter, Wine and Whisky today - let
Opiumers grumble if they will at such a
Dinner! - 5 or 6 young Ladies M.P.'s
daughters all very elegantly dressed,
with the bloom of health and the blast
of industry upon their cheeks added
much to the pleasure of the day -

After dinner we took a walk in the
Fields and returned to Sea - during
our walk we met a young woman
taking two Horses to the Field she was
loading one and seeing a notice on
the other - Young Mr Paton accom-
panied us to the Beach where he met
and introduced me to Mr Carnaby the
Surgeon of Thurse, whom he told me
was rather given to drinking but it was
not to be wondered at for both his father
and this was so.

Monday, June 12. Went ashore with
Rogers at 10. and according to appointment
met Mr Paton at Richards Inn who kindly
undertook to show us a very excellent
Farm about 5 miles off belonging
to Mr Trale, our Friend by no means con-
sider it. Mr Trale farms about 5000
Acres greater part of which is in corn
and all well fenced and enclosed. He
has about 200 Cows of his own, besides
those of his servants - his houses, his cattle,
his Offices were all equal to any thing
in England. and round his house at
Castlehill his Plantations Gardens and
Gronies are laid out with great taste,
there is nothing remarkable in all
this except that it is in Caithness.

We met Mr Trale walking with his
Daughter and we went into the House
with him and had a few Glasse of wine
but being Sheriff, am obliged to go off
on particular business he apologized
for not inviting us to spend the evening.

Mr T. is a man of large fortune he
only the Son of a Clergyman in Thurso,
an married lady. must be the
Daughter of the late Earl of Caithness
but she has been dead some time.

After viewing every thing worth
noticing we had some refreshment
at an Inn and at 8 set out from
Castletown towards Thurso, where
we arrived between 10 & 11 and found our

boat still there owing to an intense
fog we had some difficulty in finding
the Ship which lies more than 2 miles
from Thurso. I believe had I not been
at the helm we would have been a
shore 2 or 3 times - we got on board
about 1 P.M. - a boat had just arrived
from Rosnach with Mr Semple a friend
of Lord Selkirk's who is appointed gov-
ernor of the Northern Settlements in this
country. they had great difficulty in
finding the Ship.

Tuesday, June 13 I went ashore
in the morning got a few newspapers in
Thurso and then took a walk to see Harold's
Tower which stands on a hill
at the south side of Thurso
very fine looks well at a dis-
tance, it is a Monument
erected by Ser Schumbrlein to the mem-
ory of Harold King of the Danes, who
it is said was killed and buried here.



Several of our Colonists have arrived
but I understand not near the num-
ber that was intended. I returned on
board the Ship to dinner and went no
more on shore. - By Lord Selkirk's
regulations he has appointed Mr Mac
Donald, Surgeon and Captain of the
Purveyors, Mr Rogers 1st Lieutenant,
Mr Sage 2nd Lieut & Chaplain and
Mr Huddelth, Surgeon & 3rd Lieut.

Wednesday June 14th Went ashore
this morning and being a fine day had
a pleasant walk with Lieut. M^r Stewart
and young Paton. I visited several ladies
to come off and see the Ship. In the
afternoon we were crowded with con-
pany 15 Ladies and a greater number
of gentlemen drank Tea. we had a
Karyager on board and gave the
Ladies a dance, they were all highly
entertained and gratified.

Thursday June 15th The Sacrament
being to be administered next Sunday
in the established Church, this day was
kept like a solemn fast throughout
the town as is the custom in the Kirk
of Scotland. In the morning Capt R
and I went to Church. Mr. Bute
is the Clergyman, he begins in Gaelic
and preaches in Gaelic, he concludes his
service at 1, when the Gaelic people
retire and the English congregation
come in. he went in before the
conclusion of the Gaelic, to hear him
in that language, it was to us indeed
a jargon of confused sounds totally
inintelligible, the language is so very
gallish that it must be difficult

I understand Mr. Bute said us
a high compliment, he told the
Highlanders in Gae that he saw some
gentlemen had come in who did

not understand what was saying, &
therefore he would take the liberty of
abridging his subject. but he made
us pay for his complaisance for
he excluded from the Highlanders he
gave us in full. his Sermon lasted
an hour and 10 minutes. We dined
at an Inn, and went to drink tea
with a rich old Lady, Mrs. M^r of Dundee
generally known by the name of Lady
Sandside. she is a highly accomplished
agreeable and hospitable woman, being
an English lady. she makes a point
of seeing all Englishmen who come to
the Country, generally any Scotsman
who comes to the neighbourhood pays
his respects first to Lady Sandside.

Mr. Paton was here, and from the
united attention which Capt R paid to
that lady. it is but too evident, that she
has made a forcible impression upon his
heart.

Friday, June 16th Today all the
Passengers bound for America which
have arrived at Thurso came on board.
the whole do not amount to more than
80. altho' the number licensed to go
100. A variety of company of both
sexes came on board to see the Ship, &
in the evening a number of very
fine young Ladies were at tea and
spent a few hours with great hilarity.

Saturday June 11th. Today I had invitations to three different houses to breakfast to dinner & to supper & which I could accept as the ship was half expected to leave there. At 10^o the anchor was weighed and made sail for Tromsø the distance is not great, but the wind was not altogether favorable, which obliged us to go by the mouth instead of going past the Pentland Firth and by the long slope into Tromsø. Off Hoy Head we were some time becalmed - this Island where it faces the Sea is so very high that the clouds are generally resting upon it, where it looks to the Atlantic it presents a bold perpendicular front.

At Hoy Head there is a very remarkable rock called the Old man of Hoy, it rises perpendicularly from the beach like those at Skerryvore but it is much larger and is seen above the land at a great distance.

At the base of the rock there is a curious arch under which a man can walk with ease. - In one view of the rock its top forms a very good profile of a man's face so that it is very appropriately named the Old Man of Hoy. - About 7 P.M. a strong breeze sprang up, but quite contrary we kept turning to windward till we got up to Grimsø

then have to till the change of the Tides.

Sunday, June 10th. About 3 o'clock this morning I slipped anchor off Skomast. I went ashore with Capt. R. in the forenoon, and went to church which was the first one on the town of Will out of the town, the church being now pulled down and a new one building on its site.

After dining at Mr. Logan's town we went to the Burgher Meeting which was well attended but the oratory of the Minister would scarcely bear criticism. After dinner we took a walk. The situation of Skomast is very romantic and picturesque, it extends along the shore something like Lerwick in Shetland. Behind it the ground rises with a steep acclivity which is laid out into little plots, that have been formed out of the barren rocks, here & there large sheets of water and various islands are seen, with the mountains. They are the opposite side of the Sound which give a variety and grandeur to the view. The town itself is ill built, shabby and dirty and the inhabitants very inhospitable to those of this sea. We could upon the whole and family who were very polite.

Monday, June 11th. I did not go ashore till the afternoon and then I spent going for sunset with an acquaintance and the place being naturally dark there to me a sunset phase like a fish

out of the water. - I called upon Mr. Davidson who is the only scotch bred man I have seen in the place - for besides him I have heard nothing but swindlers & swindlers from those persons of whom I was purchasing goods. - Took a walk about a mile or so on the Kirkwale road to see a bridge of 4 arches that is extended over the narrow neck of a large lake. - The architecture was hardly to be expected, but this structure exceeds in means of work what I would have supposed.

Took a walk also to the Church yard about a mile to the West of Stromness. The ground is completely bare & we will note which I was informed feed upon the dead bodies as soon as they are deposited there. - Several young women were sitting mourning over the graves of their respective relatives, upon enquiry I found one had been dead 12 months another 10. - would their grief be genuine?

Tuesday, June 20. Today I took a ride to Kirkwale with Capt. Davidson and Mr. Geddes a Stromness gentleman. - Kirkwale is the capital of Kirkcubright a very ancient Royal Burrough, governed by a Provost & Magistrates a Dean of Guild, &c. It is situated on the East Side of Penona, or Mainland distant from Stromness about 10 miles. - a very good road facilitates the intercourse between the two towns. - On going over a hill 3 or 4 miles from Stromness the Loch of Kirkwale opens to the view in all directions. it rises from the head of the Bay of Stron...

by a narrow neck over which is thrown the Bridge of Leth. - it extends up 5 miles to the Hill and forms a pleasant sheet of water the tide flows up it some way, and consequently it abounds in fishes. - The Lake is nearly divided into 2, by two points of Land which are united by the Bridge of Drogan.

On the Margin of this lake is found an interesting curiosity the Standing Stones of Alesund. a number of Stone pillars from 15 to 20 feet in height & immensely large supposed to have been placed there by the Druids for some religious purpose, they are something similar I believe to the Stones at Avebury in England.

At one place there is a cluster of 10, forming a circle, surrounded by a trench and 10 mounds at equal distances from each other these are supposed to have been burying grounds or rather heaps. - At another part they are arranged in the form of a semicircle, and some were placed apparently irregular. The Church and Village of Alesund stands near the road. Some miles further on we meet again with tharves that water the Eastern side of Mainland - and several other of the high Isles appear in sight - here we pass the parish Church of Forth and a few scattered houses - Nothing remarkable occurs during the rest of the ride which is throughout the whole extremely bleak and bare - except a few spots here and there it is cold and continued desert, until the Town of Kirkwale bursts suddenly into view at the distance of 2 miles

line the prospect is altered. fertile fields
extend on every side. The town has a
very fine appearance the houses are
mostly white and covered with shales the
venerable Cathedral of St. Margarets sur-
rounding the town with the Remains of the
Palaces of the Bishops & Counts Abbeys,
giving an air of Majesty and grandeur
to Kirkwall which you Northern born
can boast of. - We arrived about 3 o'clock
& I immediately repaired to the ruins &
examined the Cathedral & Chapel which
to the credit of Kirkwall is clean and
good repair. - The view from the Steep
is very gratifying - the prospect is exten-
sive distant hills and Islands. There
are some fields, beautiful little Gardens and
several large trees interspersed through
the town. - Not above three or four huts
are to be seen, the Houses are in general
good, several elegant, and in many very
convenient. - In the Market place a Stone
City has stood since the year 1621. the Town
house is a great & curious stone building,
supported on pillars forming a piazza
in front, the first story is divided into ap-
partments for the common prison, the
2^d an assembly room, and a hall adjoining
for the Courts of Justice. - and the highest is
set apart for the accommodation of the
nobility of free citizens. - in addition to
the other magnificent ruins the reliques
of the Castle formerly a place of great strength
are yet remaining. - but it is not much
celebrated for any thing than its excellent
harbour in a Street of a Mile in length
extends from one end of the town to the

other, in which there are some very good
ships. I could not help observing the impor-
tance of two great battles who have died to
each other, inscribed at the sign of the
Elephant writes upon his sign Post.

"Longest of Animals, Pacific mind & temper!
The signers are like the Elephant that all men
have in my hand."

The other is the sign of the Bull
bearing the Elephant under Foot, with
these lines.

"King Henry as a foreign prince,
With boast of strength and bravery,
But true John Bull with spirit full,
Will bring him soon to slavery."

After perambulating the Town thro' and
thro' returned to the Inn and had a
delicious good dinner. - We called on a
Mr. Miller who acquired an independence
by his profession that of a Taylor in
Wapping, London, - and has retired to enjoy
it in his native country. - We left Kirkwall
about 8 o'clock and rode to Stromness in about
2 hours and a half. - The weather all day
was delightful.

Thursday, June 22 - Yesterday
I did not get on shore & being the eve-
ning was so rainy and tempestuous that
I could not go. In the afternoon Mr
M^r Donald, Lord Saltbush's agent in town
and Mr. M^r Donald who goes the voyage
with us as Surgeon, arrived after an
uninterrupted journey to Lord Ray's country
to procure more Colonists. This being
the longest day, there is no darkness till
about this time. - I read the Power Book
my entertainment at 12 o'clock. P.M. by daylight

Friday June 23rd. Visited the Island
of Hay remarkable for its steep moun-
tains - and the Dwarfie Stone of which
many ridiculous tales have been told,
this stone lies on the brink of a valley
seems to be broken from the freestone
rock above either by its own gravity or
by the hand of man and has been after-
wards hollowed out into the whimsical
form it now bears. - The inside is divided
into 3 apartments in one of which is
something like a bed, the other is a
sort of small room and between these
a space that seems intended for a fire-
place as there is a hole cut in the roof
for the smoke to issue thro'. - Tradition
affirms it to have been the habitation
of a giant & giants steps from which they
issued forth for depredations. - But
it is at present believed with more
probability to have been the cell of
some hermit. - People live to a great
age in this island, there is an old
man even in existence in his 117th year.

And M^{rs} Crookshank the Mother of the
present Laird is in her 94th and retains
all the agility and vivacity of youth,
she can read the smallest print with-
out spectacles and her favourite
exercise is dancing at which she
excels. - Indeed she is so fond of it that
she cannot resist the fascinations
tion of Music and she declared that

if she was to put on her dancing pumps
and with Pickings she would like out
the whole party.

Saturday June 24th. Today an
additional family of Comings came on-
board from Thurso, and about 60 fine
young fellows going out in the Com-
ings service were mustered on board
at 10 o'clock, 14 of whom from the Island
of Lewis go in the Harlow. They are
all fine looking, and of good nature
and speak the Gaelic language. I
saw all the Highlanders we have in
the Ship seem possessed of a sneaky,
obsequious and contented disposition,
with a deal of unaffected piety: twice
every day they assemble in a corner
of the Ship for the purpose of devotion,
in which a venerable old man officiates.

In the afternoon Capt Rogers and
I went to Stromness and drank tea
with M^r Davidson a very intelligent
respectable gentleman, originally
from Aberdeenshire. -

After drinking a few Glases of
wine with M^r Temple who is going
to Hudson's Bay to be Governor General
I returned on board the Ship about
10 P.M. - and concluded a letter to
my father.

Sunday, June 25th About noon they
we weighed anchor and put to sea with
fine weather but not a very favourable
wind. - I left Stamness with great
indifference, rather indeed with a
degree of satisfaction - very different
from those sentiments of respect with
which we took our leave of Thurso. It
would be illiberal to depreciate the cha-
racter of the Cockney generally from a
single intercourse with them - but con-
trasts they are a great contrast to their
Scandinavian neighbours. They are far be-
hind them in industry - totally devoid
of civility, and hospitality seems almost
forgot by a great proportion of the
Cockney people - perhaps the difference
in the character of these people may be
attributed to their greater intercourse with
the world, and their more extensive com-
mune in proportion as people become rich
they too generally become selfish, and
lose ties of equality and mutual depen-
dence upon each other being loved - Pride
haughtiness, and ostentation begin to be
cultivated there, civility, hospitality and
humility formerly dwelt.

During the afternoon we passed Stamness
along the northern coast of Sutherland.
The general aspect of this country is very
mountainous, many of the mountains
rise to the height of 2000 feet. The coast
is broken by many islets and some of the

Sea - The different shades and tints
diffused over the rugged hills by the repeated
rays of the declining sun afforded us a very
grand and sublime prospect, during the
whole of the evening the shades of night
themselves are now swart up in obscurity
- at the conclusion of the day we were
opposite the Trich Island a remarkable
rock that makes its appearance high
above the water - it is about 11 leagues
distant from Stamness.

Monday, June 26. for good part
of the morning we were becalmed, at
last a pleasant breeze sprang up from
the Southward. Our passengers as might
be expected are all a little sea sick, but
in other respects are all very happy.

At night we came up to the solitary
and almost desolate island of Trava &
Rona about one 11 miles apart and
inhabited by only one family that
widens for the largest - they are vi-
sited once a year by a Wegyan man
from Lewis who comes to preach
them a sermon and in return does
not forget to take back his tithe. This
would appear rather a hardship upon
the feeble creatures, but I have seen
they pay their tithes with great plea-
sure as probably this is the only inter-
course they have with their fellow
creatures, being situated in the eastern
Atlantic at least 100 miles from any

the human beings - the Island
which they live is about 2 miles round,
and it affords pasture for a few cattle
which with the little corn they can
sow and the produce of the deep, obtain
them a subsistence.

Tuesday, June 27th. The wind
having been quite contrary all night
and blowing fresh we lost ground more
than gained, and the encroachment
of the Ship, completely hindered
up all the passengers. They are forced
even to lay aside their usual custom
of praying twice a day. Capt. Davison
relates an anecdote of the last Settlers
he took out about 3 years ago. They
were all from Iceland & had a Roman
Catholic Priest and Surgeon to attend
them. A stiff breeze arose as soon
as they put to sea and they were pre-
sently attacked with Sea Sickness. The
Doctor fancying himself very ill &
the Ship in danger, run in great ter-
ror to the Holy Father for Absolution.
The priest good man (who was very
sick himself) probably for some
concerned for the spiritual welfare
of the whole to attend to an individual
"Told him" by Jesus, he must wait
till another day, for he had not time
to absolve him now.

The after part of this day proved
extremely fine and falling calm

The fishing lines were put over and
several fine large Cod caught.

The Island of Lewis is visible in
the evening distant about 18 or 20 miles.

Thursday, June 29. These two days
the winds have been favourable and
the weather hazy. Yesterday the Com-
mander made a signal for the Master
to take the Prince of Wales in tow as we
have the advantage of superior sailing,
he took the Eddystone in tow likewise
and we in this way keep all near together.
About noon today a Ship passed us
from Denmark or Prussia, steering
for Iceland apparently.

Sunday, July 2. During the last few
days the wind has been fair and the weather
as fine as it possibly could be. We continue
with the Prince of Wales in tow, and the
Eddystone towed by the Leeward of war.

At present we are in the 25th Degree of
West Longitude. - And we continue enjoy-
ing the advantages of a favourable breeze
getting forward very rapidly.

Monday, July 3. Today the weather
was foggy and very little wind but that
directly fair. - Our passengers all quite
well and happy.

Tuesday, July 4th. Almost calm
the whole of the day with a continual
thick fog, but of this there seems to
be a difference of opinion for one

of our States who is of Irish extraction
Mr. Donovan has insisted in the days
by "Light breezes & clear foggy weather"
and so it now stands.

Such weather is common, if not
peculiar to those Seas, & to all the North
Sea and Coast of Britain at this season
of the year. It is believed to arise from
the melting of the ice in the North, the
evaporation arising from which produces
these intense fogs, which last sometimes
for weeks.

Sunday, July 9th. During the
remainder of the week the wind was right
against us and blowing fresh. but from
the superior good qualities of the food that
we had, the weather has not by any means
been so disagreeable. The people bear it, all tolerably
well. The wind still continues un-
favorable.

It is a general rule at sea, to observe the
sight with some civility, being
drinking a glass to the health of lives
and civilities. This practice is observed
almost invariably, and consequently my two
companions and myself were late nights
staying in a little intimacy such as joking,
laughing, and singing. We were quite done
in the Round House and therefore resting
nobody, for the Captain who is neither
agreeable nor agreeable about dinners was
giving in conversation and except at time
of meals generally keeps himself apart.
Whether to assume an air of consequence
or to pick a quarrel I don't know. but
while we were originally scolding the prom-

the Scotch song of Miller's "Jack a Bant"
he came in and expressed himself highly
pleas'd. What do you mean by all this noise?
I don't understand such proceedings, say,
put away the bottles" — I immediately
took my hat and walked out of the room
to avoid the portending storm, & thereby
had no part in the serious quarrel that
afterwards ensued between Mr. Rogers and
Capt. Davison which ended not in an open
direct challenge. — but in an intima-
tion from the former that he would fight
the other in any way he thought proper
— as a gentleman, to decide the dispute.

Tuesday, July 11th. We were fortunate
yesterday in having the westerly gale subside
into a calm which proved a favorable & a fine
wind as frequently happens. At this day
we have kept running at the brisk rate of
four & half knots, which has brought us to
the Southern extremity of Greenland and
into the Mouth of Davis' Straits. The
wind is no longer fair for our course to
Hudson's Straits. — The weather is very
cool but clear and salubrious. — The
Highlanders, notwithstanding their hard
half-rusted appearance at home, seem
to feel more cold than those who come
from more hospitable climes. Indeed they
are the most spiritless, indolent, lazy set
people I ever met with, and so little relish
have they for a creature's cleanliness that
it is by absolute compulsion only they
can be made to keep their boots clean.

I saw a striking instance of extreme
drowsiness today in a young man of 22. he
was lying on his back in bed, eating his

Quinn and rather than be at the service of raising his head to drink, he was sucking it out of the spout of a coffee pot.

Wednesday, July 12 The wind today continues unfavourable, but the weather is most delightful.

In Latitude 54° to 55°

Thursday, July 13th Light winds and unfavourable during the fore part of the day, but the breeze improved in both respects towards evening. The weather continues fine but cool.

Friday, July 14th Fine weather and brisk breezes all these 24 hours. Have run 223 Miles since yesterday at Noon, so that if the wind holds we may soon expect to meet with Ice.

Sunday, July 16th The whole of yesterday it was quite calm, about Noon Mr. Knapp the Governor General at York & a Mr. Sinclair who has been upwards of 30 years in the Trade his boy's visitations came on board for a little while. In the evening a breeze sprang up which snatched a couple anades for the value of the preceding day, as the whole of this day we have kept running South by her side the Westward.

Lat: in 58° $3\frac{1}{2}'$ N.

Wednesday, July 19th Since Sunday the weather has been variable, sometimes moderate breezes, sometimes quite calm and frequently foggy, during last night there was some smart rain. The first I believe since leaving Behning. This Morning was delightful and during the day the wind shifted

in our favour. At 4 in the afternoon we passed a small Isle of Ice, which however was thought very large and much admired for its grandeur by Capt. Rogers and others who had seen nothing of the kind before. We may expect to meet with more Ice soon, as by our reckoning we are in 62° N Lat: and as far in West Longitude; at present we are running to the Westward at the rapid rate of between 9 and 10 Miles an hour: but it soon blew so strong as to force us under double reef, however it was over in a few hours.

Thursday, July 20 A deluge of rain fell during the early part of the morning but the day became cool fine, the evening now and then foggy. The wind shifted from N. to S.W. which is still more in our favour. Several land birds have been seen flying about and lightning on the Ship, but neither Land nor Ice is yet to be seen. The Dec. Edulphus and Prince of Wales continue in company.

Friday, July 21st Found a very fine day with occasional showers of fog. The wind quite against me so that we could make but little progress. Several Isles of Ice or Icebergs as I called them in a preceding voyage, have been seen in the course of the day.

Saturday, July 22nd. A fine clear day,
 the wind still the very point of the bow, gave
 us much to steer. consequently we can not
 but little progress. - The appearance of
 land sometimes flattens our hopes, but it
 proved only birds flying - a cloud of fog.
 Taped a few Isles of Ice in course of the
 day.



Ice Bergs, or Isles of Ice -

As Greenland is the (the braverest works of frost)
 None white in air, and glitter round the coast
 Pale Seams empty, at distance roll away,
 And on the surface see the lightning play,
 Several times the growth of shape supply,
 Till the bright Mountains, from the incumbent sky,
 As little fixed, each heavy pile appears,
 The gathered winter of a Thousand years.

Monday, July 24th. In our present
 Latitude day light hardly leaves us, the
 smiling Sun disc of promise but for a few
 hours, hiding his face under asceptand

Hudson, which is our aim, not the least
 of the beauties, which contribute to the
 general grandeur of these Polar Climes.

As day dawned this morning the
 sun shined for Islands of Resolution
 was seen at the distance of about twenty
 we approached nearer to it in course of
 the day. - This Island or Isles is of some
 extent, quite barren, uninhabited and
 overgrown with snow throughout the
 year. - It lies in 61. 29' N. Latitude, and
 65. 16 W. Longitude and serves us a
 direction into Hudson's Straits at the
 mouth of which it is situated. - but
 the wind continues very scanty, little
 of it and quite against us. - yet the
 weather is extremely fine, and clear,
 but cool. - the Thermometer standing
 at 43. - very little above the freezing
 point. -

Tuesday, July 25. In the fore part
 of the day, it was quite calm, sun
 and warm but very foggy. - Being
 close to Resolution we sounded over
 130 fathoms, but found no bottom,
 we took this opportunity of making
 the wet harness experiment of putting
 down an empty bottle closely corked
 and bringing it up full of water.

In the afternoon a breeze sprung
 up and we came amongst a good
 deal of straggling Ice. - The Fog

continued very heavy and the wind much against us.

Wednesday, July 26. Having now fairly entered the open straits we have been profuse in, which is continually being cut out of Anderson's Bay and the numberless bays and straits with which the Northern lands abound. - The weather being very foggy and the wind blowing strong from the SW we were sometimes a good deal embarrassed by ice and obliged to tack about very often. - we completely lost the other three Ships, it chanced up on the evening and we saw less of them at anchor about 12 Miles apart. - we also should have succeeded to a piece of Ice but the weather becoming quite clear and one of the Ships getting under way, we continued turning to windward all night.

Thursday, July 27th. Proves a most charming day. - light winds and fine clear warm weather. - Having got away from all the other Ships we made towards an Isle of Ice, to anchor for the night. - and let the Ships come up with us. - This afforded a good scene and a great treat to all our Passengers. - so great was their eagerness to get upon it, that they were jumping off the Ships before it had well got to it: even some of the women ventured upon it

and amused themselves with climbing about and putting their partners with Snow. - - Fortunately for us our situation is very different from that so admirably described in Thompson's Winter! -

"All fires the bark with trembling wretches dying,
That, sped amid the floating fragments, move
Beneath the shelter of an icy Isle,
While sight overwhelms the view and horror looks
More horrible. Can human force and man
Dissembled mischief that besiege them stand?
Heart gnawing hunger, fainting weariness,
The roar of winds & waves, the crush of ice,
Now ceasing, now renewed with louder rage,
And in their echoes bellowing round the train,
More to embroil the deep, Leviathan
And his unaided train, in dreadful sport,
Tempest the lossen'd brain, while thro' the gloom,
Far, from the bleak inhospitable shore,
Leading the winds, is heeded the hungry howl
Of famish'd monsters, there awaiting cracks."

Friday, July 28th. - During the whole of the night the wind was quite fair & still we were laying doing nothing. - I got up this morning at 5 o'clock and found the Isle of ice to which we had succeeded, but its equilibrium and laid upset; the part which was high out of the water before, was now at the water edge and the part on which they had landed the preceding evening was now an inaccessible cliff. this was a very dangerous circumstance

the more so as the Capt was in bed and the
officer of the watch being quite unexpe-
rienced was not sensible of our hazardous
situation. - for I found the Ship lying
with her Stern close against the Ice, the
bowsprit laying flat on the surface of
this crazy ice, had the immense mass
given three feet more at this juncture, the
bowsprit would have been carried away
as easy as break a Tobacco pipe; but at
my suggestion the Seapoles were used to
thrust the Ship off and no accident hap-
pened except cracking the Mastigale.

We waited for the Prince of Wales coming
up till she was within 4 miles of us; we
then got under way - about 4 o'clock. by
this time the wind had veered considerably
more against us as before and it was
foggy all day. - In the evening, we met
with the Ice extremely close which
induced us to stand more to the North-
ward toward the Land, where it was
more navigable the Ice not so thick.
But notwithstanding, the fog and dark-
ness of the night were such that we
could not avoid striking heavily against
several pieces of Ice.

"Miserable they!

Who have entangled in the gathering ice,
Take their last look of the descending sun;
While full of death, and force, the tempest roars,
The long long night incumbent on their heads,
Tails horrible."

Thompson.

Saturday, July 29th After standing in
towards the land we got quite close of Sea,
the little wind we had, being favourable
we kept approaching the land in order
to trade with the Esquimaux. - That
Land which we are now opposite is called
the Isle of Good Fortune in Maps, it is an
Island of considerable extent. - Near
the Shore the black barren rocks are
only here and there speckled with snow
but over this is seen a tract of country
which is eternally covered with Snow
and is called on that account Terra
Neva. - A heavy fog on board
the steam of war in the forenoon directed
our attention towards the Shore where
we discovered the Ship, and soon after one
of the other Ships a long way astern.

At 8 P.M. having come pretty near
the Shore - an Esquimaux came off
in his Canoe and by his gesticulations
pointing to the Shore gave us to under-
stand there was plenty snow wood
come off to the King George - their
name for a Ship. -

The weather all day was extremely
fine - quite clear with light favour-
able breezes, and frequently calm.

Sunday, July 30th Before daylight
this morning I was awake with the com-
ing of the Parages, coming off to the ship,
and immediately got up. The Sun was

completely speckled with their dimes; the dimes are very neatly round of them, and contain but one person, who works it along with great velocity by means of one sort of paddle which he carries before him and gives the water a sweep with it first on one side, then the other. So great was the exertion they used in paddling, and shouting, that some of them were bleeding at the nose, perhaps from the movement they have to make the commencement their vociferation calling Chi-mo - so friends and Nilly tay will you trade? When they approached the ship they set up a horrible yell of congratulation, especially the women who come upon large boats made of skin also, and which contain a great number. - Two of those luggage boats full of women came to the ship about 5 in the evening and saluted us in their way, by jumping, holding up and shaking their hands & shouting, but the moment they saw the British women they pulled away to the lee, and I was apprehensive we should not have the pleasure of paying our respects to the Ladies, but in consequence of the forenoon a boat load, did come off.

The moment the boat got alongside I lowered myself down into it, but so horrible was the manner in which they expressed their savage joy, that though I also clapped my hands, jumped & imitated their yells. I believe I almost shrieked from terror rather than

delight. - The women are all tattooed on their face. Neck, arms and various parts of the body, in a fanciful manner and some of them are so florid a complexion, that I could hardly help supposing this colour was artificial also.

The men have very much the complexion and features of the Chinese, they are not tattooed at all. - Both men and women are extremely fat which may be owing to their living entirely upon animal and oily food. -

It is scarcely possible to conceive the barbarism of this people, altho their whole riches consists in what they get from the Ships, yet they dont prepare much for the purpose of bartering very unlike the Esquimaux & Esquimaux who are very provident & industrious.

Except Seal-whale bones, and a little Ivory which are of some value they expose nothing for sale but what is on their person. - at least they put on every thing they want to dispose of, to show it to the best advantage. What they most value is iron in any form or description. nothing better than a piece of old iron hoop. - Every thing that is Iron they kiss or lick with their tongue the moment they receive it. - For almost every thing they ask a Macky man with - a Knife

The Ladies dress rather more genteel than the men, and are fond of ornaments, and trinkets. One who from her appearance and dress seemed to be a Lady of Note. She chose rings to her and for a small young looking Glass, a pair of Spectacles and an old watch chain with a few buttons, she parted with every stitch she wore, however she put something else on immediately and to do justice to her modesty she conducted the business of the toilet in the presence of 100 people without any breach of decency.

The food of these Savages must consist of Whale and Seal flesh and Oil and Fowls and Deer. - And there are some presumptive proofs of their eating human flesh. - Last year a human hand was found where they had been making a repast and today an old man offered me a small bag full of bones. - chiefly those of the tongue. - perhaps it is only crime: - when they eat a man - devour to it by necessity. - It is probable they eat all their victims raw, for when shown a fire on board the Ship they seemed terrified. - Indeed if we consider the inhospitable part of the globe they are destined to inhabit and the great districts they must per-

sequently be driven to by hunger in consequence we shall no longer be surprised to find they can relish any thing in common with the meanest of the animal creation, but rather admire the wisdom of providence in forming the palate and power of all creatures in such a manner as is best adapted to the food, climate and other circumstance incident to their respective situations. - They seem to loath every kind of European food. I divided some of gingerbread among them which they tasted out of complaisance and threw away

More came off in the evening further along the coast but the Cobblestone and Dec being nearest in shore they did not come to us.

The weather all day extremely fine clear and warm. - The evening delightful. - Hoop sailing along shore with light airs. - No Ice in the way except several very large Isles of very extraordinary shapes and appearances.

During the day we have been off the land called Saddle Beach where the Esquimaux and generally first make their appearance.

Monday, July 31st. At the beginning
of this 24th hour we were off Savage Point.
The weather all day was as fine as any
common day in England, and the wind
quite fair. we kept sailing along at a
distance from the Land among low Isles,
and large Isles. In the forenoon I saw
the Boats of some Esquimaux, the Prince
of Wales which was a long way ahead
here too for them, and hoisted the British
a mark of respect always observed
when they come off to the Ship.

Land was seen right ahead
of us which appeared to me
to be an Island, but the Capt
informed me it was a part
of the Island of Foxe's Fort
which comes round in that remarkable
way and must grow a great Bay
which is probably well stored with Seals,
Sea Horses and other Animals, which the
Inhabitants subsist. for there is not
a bit of verdure nor even a spot of earth
to be seen any more than on the Rocks
which are washed by the sea. Off this
point of land is a small Isle called Upper
Always Island. we were opposite to this
about 3 M. and it falling quite calm
we soon discovered upwards of a Dozen Canoes
coming off and 3 large buggies boats
full of women and children. The
women come always to the Ship first
and after having made themselves ac-
quainted with what kind of goods they are to

expect, and a few shute away and engage
the women when they either continue
in their course or alter it for as they vary
according to the nature of the information
they receive. - These 3 Boats were at first
all going towards the Sea, then they al-
tered their course for some of the others
but on my exciting my Esquimaux
accompanied by Capt. Rogers, our united
shots enticed them all to come to us.

These seem quite a different tribe
from the Ladolle Back Indians that we
had yesterday and probably they are
hostile to each other, for when I called
them after the manner of the other peo-
ple, they only laughed at me. In
these are most complete Savages, they
showed no mark of respect to the
sailors as the others did; or the com-
pany when I jumped into their Boat
a fellow with a most fierce aspect
endeavoured to prevent me and in a
stern manner drove me out again.
The fair sex also had to give displeas-
ure however I soon conciliated them all, by
distributing a few buttons among them
but my situation was not a very
pleasant one, for they were endeavoring
all the time to hustle me and did find
my pocket of a few articles.

They soon all left us and went to
the Edystone notwithstanding the
Officers of the Sea were using every
effort to entice them to come to them.



Tuesday, Aug. 1st. The weather all day extremely fine with light breezes from the Northward. Kept plying to Hindward amongst Ice and occasionally saw very near the South Shore, but saw no Indians, a proof there was none in that part of the Coast. - In the evening the South Shore or Land of Labrador was also in sight. - The Ships all in company and not embarrassed with ice.

Lat: in at Noon 62.34' N.

Wednesday, Aug. 2nd. Light easy fine weather. The Ships plying in with the North Shore but making little progress.

A circumstance happened to day the completely childish and ridiculous in itself, had nearly led to a disagreeable result. - Some of the young men wishing to make a little sport, asked a loan of an Esquimaux hoop in order to perform the Esquimaux woman. - ever willing to promote amusement and innocent amusement I immediately complied.

When he went below they all heartily joined in the sport. the hustle it made and the exercise soon warmed them and heated the place and one woman faint.

This immediately turned the scale & those who had been most active began immediately to enquire against it, among a people brought with mischief and full of duplicity and intrigue, very suspicious constructions seem to be

hatching about a thing in itself perfectly innocuous.

Thursday, Aug. 3rd. As I anticipated. M^{rs} M^{rs} Donnell had been brooding over some mischief all night and to resent a private jeer he was mean enough to be canvassing the people B and laying their heads together to patch up a story which he told Capt Rogers and I, as being in some degree accomplished. he intended to convey to Lord Selkirk, however in the course of the day the foolish affair was amicably settled.

All day it was nearly calm, and were it not for the delay it causes the weather might be considered delightful. - The Ice becomes very thick. we had a boat down all day towing. - at 4 P.M. saw made the ship fast to a piece of Ice the Prince of Wales and Gollystone to a rather close by us and the Ice to an Isle of Ice at some distance. - The Land distant about 15 miles, 3 or 4 were fired during the day, but they were off no Indians. - probably there are none upon the spot.

After laying grappled to the Ice for a couple of hours we got under way again, and proceeded, a favourable breeze having sprung up.

Friday, Aug 4th All night kept
running amongst very large and in-
termediate Ice, and the Ship got many
wound blows which could not be avoided.
The pieces of Ice at last became so close
wedged together that she could hardly
squeeze thro' between them. It is im-
possible to conceive the labour and
attention it requires to conduct
this intricate navigation. The
Ship all night, too in thin ice and
just to the Ice - we were the last to give
out, at 10 o'clock however we grappled also
to a piece of Ice which the Capt. did with
much reluctance, as he wanted to find
ground. - It was found that the Ship
had been stove by the Ice, but not dan-
gerously. - The people immediately
set to work to fill fresh water which
is lodged in pools on the Ice and is very
good. - In the afternoon an attempt
was made again to move on but there
was little or no wind and the Sails
had again to be furl'd. -

The weather unfortunately is too
fine. - The heat, the brightness of the
Sunshine and glare of the Snow has
so weakened my eyes that that I can
become almost perblind.

Saturday, Aug 5th At 4 o'clock
we got under way altho there was not a
drop of water to be seen and indeed every
little pool was cover'd with thin ice.

which had been frozen through the
night. - It was quite foggy and we kept
going thro' amongst the Ice to the South
and Eastward, and as we proceeded the
Ice became a little more loose. - It
cleared up about 9 A.M. and the
Ship followed our example, but only
the Edystone persevered, we waited
till she came up and remained in
company the whole of the day and
came into plenty of water near the
Shore where we kept tacking to the
North with the wind at S.W. The
off which we now are seems to consist
entirely of Islands which are called
Gods Manors. - It would prove a Gods
Mercy to us to get speedily clear of the
Ice which is so great an obstruction
at present. -

In the evening we spied two Birds
dead, floating & cov'ed with blood a proof
there are Inhabitants not very distant but
it is blowing too fresh to allow them to come
tho' Lat: in 65. 17' N

Sunday, Aug 6th It was a most dan-
gerful night, the wind blew high, the
hail came pattering down, and the
Ship was running with so much
force against racks of Ice as almost
to make one apprehensive of shipwreck
every moment. The Ship indeed had
sprung a leak in consequence of the

distance she had sustained. It is not
extent she may be injured is not yet
known, but she did not make much
water, as the morning advanced we
got into more water, a greater care
was taken to avoid it, for we struck
very little Ice. Snow kept falling all
the day, but the wind abated and in
the evening the weather was pretty good,
however rather than run the risk of
knocking about amongst Ice as in
the night preceding, the Edystone
was sent both grappled to a small
field of Ice about 6 P.M. Several gentle
men from the Edystone came on board
and spent the evening.

Lat: in 64th 48'

Monday, Aug 7th. The very con-
trast of yesterday, the weather all
day, clear with a fine favourable breeze.

We made sail about 11 in the morning
amongst much Ice. At 8 we saw the
Cowsey and Prince a long way ahead
and we have to tell they came up.
They reached us about Noon and we
proceeded among very cross & heavy
Ice. The other Ships rather hesitated
on meeting with some intricate places
and it is but justice to Capt. Davison
to acknowledge that it was through
his vigilance, attention & perseverance
that we got out of the Ice on the way
being into plenty of Sea soon.

The wind is good and favourable
prospects open on every side.

At Noon Charles Island bore N by W
at about 16 leagues. The Land of
Admiral is also in sight, but overhung with
clouds.

Tuesday, Aug 8th. So far on
with more Ice this morning between
the Islands of St. Lawrence & Nottingham
we got thro' it about 11 o'clock into clear
water again. What was rather re-
markable we saw no Ice between
sometimes they are very numerous.

Kept tacking to windward. The
wind being much against us. The
weather clear and cool.

Lat: in by Obs: 65° 6' 30"

Wednesday, Aug 9th. During the night
the Ship came suddenly among some
icebergs but was at times very dark
and foggy she received some very
severe blows, but her crew were not
disturbed in any way. This the day we
met with patches of Ice occasionally.
Kept flying to the westward all
day, got quite past Nottingham, and
now we have the Labrador country to
the South and the Island of Notting-
ham to the North of us.

At 5 P.M. several Whales very much
came off from Nottingham but the
wind being blowing fresh we could
not keep them long. These another

best savage in their manner, they
must be the best hunters, and also the best fishing
of any we have had yet. - Their canoes
their articles of trade, dogs, language,
or manners in general, can't appear to
differ much. - Several of their dogs
in Sackets made of the entrails of the
Stale or some large fish, they first
blow the guts up like a bladder, dry it,
and then cut them into straight strips
which they sew usually together, then
bind their Sackets made of the skin
of birds tastefully cased together, their
breeches and boots are mostly made
of Deer Skin. - The Saddle back
Indians are dressed in Seal or Sea
skins. - The Savage Indians mostly
in Seal skins - some having boots
of Bear Skin.

A very large Boat full of women
and children came off and reached
the Coast some, but unfortunately
some of the boats could visit there
was so much snow, yet the poor
creatures persevered in following
us for a long time.

The trade of Amur, undertaken by
the people of the Empire, is immense
the whole of Greenland, as far as the
the 7th degree of latitude, they are known
to exist. There is about 10,000 along the
Eastern Coast. - There is the most certain
of any, from the residence of several

Amurians. - Eskimoes are known to
live on the western coast of Davis's Strait,
whether they have intercourse with the
continent of America, or have a shipping
course of all the world is not known, but
extensive country called Eskimoes, and
Britain is inhabited by Eskimoes, and
the Northern part of America from the
Bay to the Pole, as far as has been explored.
No doubt there are many tribes among
themselves hostile to each other, and the
Northern Indians are their implacable
enemies. - There are many of the former
tribes that it is commonly believed they
are engaged to death and are frequently
and from the poor Eskimoes
they take many opportunities of murdering
- many times when they can they
murder them even in the most cowardly
manner. - They are much to be
upon these unhappy victims at a time
they were the least suspicious, - but
since an intercourse was established be-
tween the British Eskimoes and the
gangs of Amur, at least they have
been provided with arms and accoutrements
use of fire arms which tends to drive the
other Indians from being their enemies
nearly. - The Eskimoes themselves are
upon the whole a treacherous and cruel
race and not simple to take advantage
of the English when they find them
the weaker party.

Thursday, Aug^r 10th During the night strong gales of wind and heavy rain, succeeded by a hot sun and intense fog thro' the day.

Friday, Aug^r 11th A breeze sprung up in the night for a little while fair, but it soon became right against us and continued blowing very hard all day with thick disagreeable weather.

However from the heavy sea that accompanied the wind, I suspect we are in Hudson's Bay.

Saturday, Aug^r 12th All day very fine clear weather and moderate breezes from the westward, consequently nothing in our favour.

Mansfield Island in sight at some distance. Having passed Cape Pezys we are now fairly in Hudson's Bay, a sea as large as the German Ocean, and the individual property of the Hudson's Bay Company. My views falling into this bay and the lands comprehended within the said views forming an immense territory in North America, were granted to Prince Rupert and to London Merchants in the reign of Charles² in 1670 and confirmed to them by Charter. Ever since the King has been one of the Company, and since his division accordingly.

Sunday, Aug^r 13th In the forenoon the weather was moderate and fair, but in the afternoon some very heavy rain fell followed by fresh breezes from the westward and a disagreeable fog.

When clear Southampton, a large Island in Hudson's Bay is in sight, this Island is quite barren and no Inhabitants have been seen on it, but it is not improbable there are some for the Island is extensive and plenty Ice, Seals, Sea Horses, bears and Seniors on its shores, and probably plenty Deer inland.

Monday, Aug^r 14th A most heavy and incessant rain fell during the night, which cleared the atmosphere & found a very fine day with an excellent view early in the morning we met with sea and came thro' amongst a great deal, in the afternoon we had an open sea, the Conway only in company. The Prince of Wales having got out of sight and the Collystone having bore away for Ross at the bottom of the Bay a day or two ago. At 8 P.M. we again fell in with sea and kept sailing amongst it till 10, when it was thought prudent to leave too, for we had already received some blows. The night was beautifully fine, and the Aurora borealis very brilliant. - Lat in 62.00.00

Tuesday, Aug^r 15 About 3 AM
the Ships were again fast in another
with the wind quite fair, notwithstanding
ing the Ice was so closely packed
together that our progress through it
was very slow. - At 10 AM we got out
into a clear Sea again and made
all sail. - During the night the
Thermometer was below the Freezing
point, and the surface of the Sea
amongst the drift Ice was completely
frozen over but not so firmly
as to stop the Ship at all. - The
Day was temperate & extremely
clear and fine. We continued
sailing to the Westward all day
apparently along the edge of a great
body of Ice. - The wind continues
fair and had it been possible to steer
the proper course we should by this
time have been at York. -

Lat: in 61° 30' N

Wednesday, Aug^r 16th Very early
in the night we again fell in with
Ice and penetrated into it. - It was
very close and we necessarily received
some very severe blows. - At 4 the Crew
grappled to the Ice, and made the
signal for us to do the same which
was obeyed with much reluctance,
Capt. Birdson went on board soon after
and obtained leave to proceed, as the

Man of War had got injured amongst
Ice and intended stopping till they
got repaired. - At 11 we again made
sail among very close Ice, with a strong
breeze of Wind from SE and showers of
Hail. - by and by we found it more
close, and soon there was sufficient
water to enable us to lay our course,
bounded on every side by ledges of Ice.
Heavy rain followed the Hail, and
afterwards a thick fog, and the wind
veered to SW.

A great many Seals, & Whitebait
seen in course of the day, the latter
Whales are of the size of a Unicorn
or amongst Porpoises and quite white
in their name implies.

The night was pretty close, the breeze
good, and the Ice gave but plenty
of it; indeed the Ice seems to be full
of Ice and all of one year's growth,
which is several feet in thickness.

Thursday, Aug^r 17th All night
and all forenoon we kept working to
the Westward among large fields of Ice.
About Noon we got into clear water
again. - In the evening the wind got
to the westward, much against us.

The weather very fine and
pleasant but cool. The Thermome-
ter is generally near the freezing
point in the Shade.

Lat: in 61° 3' N

Friday, Aug^r 10th Fine weather
and wind S.W. - At Noon met with
Ice in abundance, and kept steering
to the Westward amongst it all the eve-
ning it was loose enough to allow us
make our way thro' it. - The Capt.
acknowledges he never before saw
so much Ice in Hudsons Bay.

Today we are to the Westward of
our Port, but a long way North yet
being in. Long: 92° W. and
Latitude 60° 49' N

Saturday, Aug^r 11th No day
amongst Ice, only heavy and much
intimately distributed over the sea, not
closely wedged together in any place,
yet so thick that it was impossible
to find a clear passage in any direction.

The Ship received many severe blows,
which made every limb of her tremble,
but at 1 P.M. she ran against a large
piece or Field of Ice, the effect of which
made every person on Board quake.

Amongst the Passengers, the Men were
down with alarm and the women
bathed in tears. - I was upon Deck
at the time myself, and when I felt
the violence of the shock, and heard
the timbers cracking I was full of
apprehension for a few moments,
but the Ship dont make much

more water and it is to be hoped the
injury is but trivial. - At 5 P.M.
we grappled to a small Field of Ice
for the night. - The wind unfavour-
able, and the prospect around us very
unpromising.

The Emigrants seem all much
disconcerted. - The great quantity
of Ice we have met with, and the
obstruction & delay that it causes
has made considerable impression
upon their mind. - They generally
regret leaving their native country
and reflect upon their advisers and
themselves for doing so. - Yet the
most arduous and difficult part
of their journey is to come to; the
Colony upon Red River is situated
in 55° N Lat. and 97° W Longitude,
they proceed from York Port up the
Nelson River in Boats and patch
their Boats on the Shore every night
Shew the cooking and preparations
for next days Journey will be
made. - There are several rapids
or carrying places, where they must
disembark and convey Boats and
luggage over land. - About 46 Miles
up the river they rise at a large
Lake called Lake Winnipeg about
250 Miles in length, at the head of

the river. - The Colony is said by
some to be from 600 to 800 Miles up
others say about 1000. - It is an
extensive plain, clear of Wood, the
Soil and Climate is said to be excellent,
it produces every thing from 40 to 50 fols,
the River abounds in fish, and the
Woods and Plains are stocked with
Buffaloe and Wild Horses. -

At present we are yet 200 Miles
from York Fort.

Lat: in 60° 35' N

Sunday Aug²⁰th At 1/2 P.M. we
again renewed our efforts to get for-
ward. Round about us the Ice had
drifted away, and for some time
there was water to work in, but as
we advanced the Ice became more
close and very large. - as for receiving
blows, custom has made it so familiar,
that we think nothing of it.

In the afternoon it was dismal,
scarcely a drop of water to be seen,
the Ice more heavy than ever, no
other ship near to render assistance
in case of accident. - and not a living
creature. Bird nor Beast has been
seen for many days. -

It is scarcely possible to convey an
idea of the Ice to a person who has
not visited the Polar Seas. - It is not
a flat, even unbroken plain on the

surface of the water; but an accumu-
lation of broken fragments of congealed
water and snow of all dimensions and
forms. - There is scarcely a figure or
outline to which something correspond-
ing cannot be met with in Ice. -
And it is impossible for the most fertile
fancy to supply the imagination
with figures too varied or extravagant
to be met with. - If one could
paint in his mind a flat country
completely covered with rocks and
pyramids of alabaster as thick as
the Drifts on the back of a Dray,
and a Ship, sticking on the summit
of it with all sail set. it would
be a kind of representation of our
present circumstances. -

The wind was blowing fresh from
the Eastward and a good deal of
Lightning in the evening. -

At 8 P.M. we grappled among
the Ice till morning.

Monday, Aug²¹st At night
it blew a strong gale of wind from
S.E. accompanied with almost con-
tinued Lightning. - The forenoon
was rainy and foggy, in the eve-
ning it cleared and water could be

was about 10 miles from the Ice - but
the wind being directly against us,
we remained trapped to large pieces
of Ice all day, as to the Westward
of us there appears to be nothing but
a solid body of Ice altogether un-
impenetrable.

Tuesday, Aug^r 22nd. This morn-
ing I was happy to find it calm, as it
left us room to anticipate a favorable
change of circumstances. & a fair wind to
enable us to get out of the Ice. In at that
time it seemed to say "Nether shall thou
come and no further and here shall thy
journey hence be stayed." Hope, and fears
were for some time very fluctuating, but
at last our wishes were realized, a fine
breeze sprang up and we had the pleas-
ure of seeing the solitary Madlow,
once more under sail. The Ice had
shaken to the Southward and we pro-
ceeded in that direction without much
obstruction till at last we got into
clear water and kept running all
afternoon at a rapid rate, but in
the evening we again had the disap-
pointment to fall in with Ice, which
obliged us to keep more to the Westward.

The Wind about SSW.

Lat: by Obs: 60° 36' N.

Wednesday, Aug^r 23rd. All day we had
a favorable breeze and clear water, so we were

Lat: by Obs: 59° 20' N.



The Madlow on the 23rd of Aug^r 1815

Thursday, Aug. 25th The wind very
unfavorable, and the day foggy very
frequently, we kept flying along the
shore which however was scarcely per-
ceptible being very flat & low, and
the water shoal to a great distance
from the land. - In the evening we
again met with Ice.

Today we are opposite to Chuk-
tchik the Northernmost of the Compa-
nie's Settlements in the Bay. There
was a very fine Fort here, called
Prince of Wales Fort which was tak-
en & destroyed by the French
Admiral, La Perouse in 1782.

Friday, Aug. 25th - The wind
quite fair and blowing a fresh,
breeze, with hazy weather.

At Noon we were near to Port
Nelson some 20 leagues north from
York Roads. - At 4 P.M. we had
the satisfaction to see the shores of
Peoplet's Land in the vicinity of
York. - The land is extremely low
the tops of the Pine trees being only
visible when we were in 7 fathoms
water. - We continued running
in till 5 P.M. when we dropped our
Anchor in 6 fathoms, at the mouth
of the Nelson River and distant

from York Factory, about 25 Miles.
But for the deficiency of Ships to
serving backward & forward every
thing has much the appearance
of approaching the mouth of the
Strait. - The Coast resembles
a good deal the low woody part of
Suffolk and Essex in Britain. The
situation in the Lat. of 57°. the wea-
ther is pretty cold. -

It continued blowing fresh to
the end. - and cloudy.

Saturday, Aug. 26th At 7th the
Morning we got under way and run
a few miles farther in. - At 9 we cast
anchor again to wait for the Tide.
I was surpris'd to find neither the
Ice nor the Prince of Wales had arriv'd.

At Noon we again set sail with
very light breeze & at 5 P.M. we dropped
Anchor in Hay's River about 8 Miles
from the Factory. - At Bank of Sand
which is bare at low & quite cover'd
at high water divides Hay from Nelson
River, the latter River is very large being
nearly 15 miles across at a narrow
part near its mouth; they both empty
themselves into the sea at the same
part and on the point of land form'd
by the confluence of the two rivers
York Factory is situated it stands on
the Banks of Hay's River, and is a

very respectable edifices, surrounded by
palisades to a 20 feet high, a ~~part~~ there
is a Battery of 12 Cannon on Front of
it. - The former Fort and Battery
were situated lower down the river, &
were destroyed by the French. -

A Boat came off to the Ship and
brought the disagreeable intelligence
of the destruction of the Red River
Colony. - The Canadians in the service
of The Montreal N^o Company, jeal-
ous of the success of the rising Colony,
from political motives, and partly
out of enmity to their rivals the
N^o Company, attacked the Settlement
in April last, & partly by surprise,
& partly by stratagem they prevailed upon a
great number of the Settlers to join them,
these they carried off by force and
but a small proportion who fled
now remain at the Colony. - The
Governor Capt. M^o Donald was carried
off a prisoner by virtue of a civil
warrant from Montreal. - M^o Donald
a gentleman now at the Colony lost
his hand in the scuffle by the bursting
of a Gun, there were wounded, the in-
feriour people were set fire to their
own houses and committed all the
destruction they could. - What will
be the result of this treachery on the
part of the Canadians and defection

of the Settlers themselves remains yet to
be known. - but it necessarily produced
a great sensation among their relations
hardly arrived. - The 1st impulse it produced
was a unanimous resolution not to quit
the Ship but insist upon being carried back
to Britain. - Amidst all the fears and
alarms of the Highlanders an English
woman, the only one who ever came
to Hudsons Bay announced some news,
- her chief enquiry was whether they
should get plenty good Poison
there. -

Sunday, Aug^r 27th. Proved a
charming day. - A number of Boats
were sent to take ashore the passengers,
they disembarked with some reluctance,
and with sorrowful hearts, - One of the
Boats which was heavily laden with
men women and children by some
mismanagement in the Boatmen
was dashed against a stone & immedi-
ately filled with water, but being
near the Shore, the people got all safe
out. - M^o Donald and I saw
another Boat at a great distance,
we hastened to their assistance, and
all their luggage to be put onto our
Boat, while we got out also and
walked with them to York, which
was about 3 miles further up. -
The day was fine which rendered the

with delightful & the people were almost
transported of joy, when they viewed the
face of the country, so contrasted with
the Snow capped Mountains of Terra Firma
and the black lower ^{mountain} ~~mountain~~ ^{mountain} ~~mountain~~
which we had left but a few weeks before.

Here every thing was arranged in
summer verdure. - The ground com-
pletely covered with wood - principally
pines, birch, and willows. various
shrubs. - Cornucopia and Goodwinia
laden with beautiful greenery, and
beautiful flowers in abundance, not-
withstanding all this the Soil here will
produce nothing, the summer is so
short and the winter so rigorous, that
all attempts to raise grain or potatoes
prove abortive. - it was the 4th of July
this present season before the buds ap-
peared on the trees & already the nights
are frosty.

Several Tents were pitched on the
lawn in front of the Factory for the
reception of the people. - They were
neat and comfortable, & every one
appeared much pleased with their
new habitations. - The Indians flock
round the Prangers and cordially shake
hands with them asking "What cheer
boy" - The British women were by no
means shy, but readily shake hands
with the Indians. - These people
seem possessed of a deal of vivacity,
they are lively and active & possess a

frank open countenance. - Their color
is something of the Copper colour,
their hair black, and their stature
rather low, but there are so many
tribes differing totally in their language
& customs that one hardly can form a
general opinion from so few. - Their
dress is chiefly cloth. - I saw none in
skins - and almost every man, woman,
& child wear a blanket bound
over the shoulders, the women find
of ornaments, the women wear
the women wear a belt fastened
with beads, but they are so addicted
to drinking spirits, that almost all
their earnings are applied to that
purpose. - on these drinking occasions
they usually quarrel, & frequently they
kill each other, however the women
do ^{not} drink ^{the} all that comes to their share,
always take the precaution to hide
the knives and weapons of destruction
as soon as they find the social glass
likely to produce this destructive effect.

The women all carry their children
suspended over their shoulders in a wooden
cassell, or a fiddle case. - the back of the
child is to the back of the mother & so
there is no impediment to the child's breath-
ing. - Even the Governor's lady and all
the wives of the Gentlemen about the
Factory, go about with their children
in the same way. - but indeed they are

all Indian women. They make very excellent, useful wines and their husbands are just as much attached to them and their children as if they were Europeans. Some of those who have been some times removed are very pretty, altho' they are valued above the rest of their family & tribe they don't assume any pride or vanity. But mingle the same as war with the Indians that are about the Factory. - I myself was with the Governour wife Mr Thomas dressed very well and with a fine scarlet mantle over her shoulders in the tent among a few drunken Indians. -

Providence is very kind in causing these people to be less prolific than the inhabitants of civilized nations, it is uncommon to see one woman have more than 5 or 6 children and those born at the distance of 3 or 4 years from each other. - The names of the children are generally derived from the name of some place or animal. - A girl is generally betrothed when young, to men up in years, it is no uncommon thing to see one of 15 or 16 betrothed to girls of not more than 10 or 12, sometimes younger, and this is sound policy with people in their situation, where the existence of a family depends upon the abilities & industry of a single man, and as they justly suppose children are so liable to alter in their manners & disposition that it is impossible to judge from the

actions of youth what abilities they may possess when they arrive at puberty. - They have ^{no} ceremony in forming matrimonial alliances; if one man takes a liking to the wife of another they wrestle for her, and she very complacently resigns herself up to the victor. a powerful man who not only can obtain wives in this way, but is able to keep them will have 6 or 7 wives. - But to return from this digression. - A large party sat down to dinner with Mr Thomas the Governour, a very shrewd worthy man, indeed all the gentlemen was very well informed & agreeable to have been removed from all European society for 30 years many of them. -

The Prince of Wales arrived today and about 4 P.M. Mr Temple the new Governour came on shore. - I thought he met with but a cool reception.

In the evening Mr Archd. McDonald arrived from the Colony; every one agrees in the soil being rich and fertile almost beyond credibility and the climate very favourable; yet there is a something which I cannot comprehend, that could induce people to desert a place so inviting. -

I retired to a most comfortable Bed, made up of a Buffaloes hide

for a mattress and then for a counterpane & Blankets between. I was wrapped in the invigorating arms of Morphoeus, until the morning and awoke to prosecute my pleasures, but the day was unfavourable, a very heavy and constant rain had fallen all night this prevented me taking a stroll into the neighbouring woods to procure plants and flowers as I intended to have done.

Monday Aug²⁰th I first visited our little Encampment on the bank and found the people all in high spirits. The heavy rain had not much incommoded them & they had heard some favorable accounts of the Colony which had made them more sanguine in their expectations than ever. - Greater part of the forenoon I spent among the Indians - in their tents, drank with them and almost ate with them. Some of them offered to help me, I consented to their helping my Cheek and was very thankful they were contented with that, for they are very punctual in completing their wishes, and the greatest mark of regard they can show you, is to take a mouthful of any thing - Grey for instance, and put it out of their own mouth into yours. They were cooking their dinner &

I dare say it was very good, for

the Gas-pans's servants say if you want to live on the greatest dainties live with the Indians for they discover what is good and they don't allow prejudice to curtail the Pleasures of the palate.

All young animals taken out of the womb, such as fawns, ~~rabbits~~^{weasels}, beavers & even young geese & ducks out of the Shell are esteemed the greatest delicacies and European gentlemen heartily join in pronouncing them so, ^{though} one who has once tasted them but will ever afterwards be fond of them. A very favourite diet among all tribes of Indians is Blood mixed with the half digested food which is found in the Deer's Stomach boiled up with water & some scraps of tender flesh & fat. To render this dish more palatable they have a method of mixing the blood with the contents of the Stomach in the Panicle itself and hanging it up in the heat and smoke of the fire for many days which puts the whole mass into a state of fermentation & gives such an agreeable acid taste, that were it not for prejudice it might be eat by those of the sweetest palates. - It is true many of delicate palates would not be easily persuaded to partake of this dish if they saw it dressed, for most of the fat that is boiled in it is chased by the men and boys. Injustice however to their cleanliness it may be observed that they are very careful that neither

old people with bad teeth nor young
children have any hand in preparing
the dish; after being convinced of this, says
an English Gentleman I no longer have
any scruple in eating it, but always
thought it very good. The Indians
eat not the contents of the Stomach
of any other large Animal except the
Deer, in winter when the Deer feeds on
white Moss they are so fond of the con-
tents of the Stomach that they will
sit round a new killed Deer & eat it warm
out of the paunch. - Their clothing
in winter consists chiefly of Deer skin
in the Hair which makes them very
subject to be lousy, & the best among
them amuse themselves with catching
& eating these vermin of which they
are so fond that the produce of a lousy
head or garment affords them a pleasing
and delicious repast, and a man who is
rich enough to have 5 or 6 wives will
set them to work to louse their hairy
Deer skin shifts to indulge him in
this luxurious treat. - Another great
dainty is the warbles which they
squeeze out of the Deer skins & eat them
raw and alive. They say they eat very
small like gooseberries. - Maggots
produced in smelt are equally agree-
able. Such is a specimen of their dainties.

These poor people live in such an inter-
mittent part of the Globe, that for
want of firing they are frequently under

the necessity of eating their victuals
raw, and from custom they eat so few
provisions frequently. - Those who are
too poor to purchase brass kettles have
large upright vessels made of birch
bark, and in order to make any thing
boil they heat stones red hot & put
into the water which soon occasions
it to boil, when a succession of stones are
heated this is a very expeditious way
of cooking. - Venison is their chief
food which is to be got in greatest plenty,
but all animals are eat by them
when necessity requires it, they are
often subjected to famine for many
days together, and bear the pangs of hun-
ger with great fortitude, on the other
hand when they have plenty there is
no bounds to their gluttony, and they
never lay any thing in store for a
time of scarcity. But when the Deer
are plentiful they will kill them for
the sake of destroying them, merely
because they have a tradition among
them that the more of any thing
they kill the more there will be.

A principal part of their food too is
fish which are to be had in great abun-
dance in the lakes & rivers at all sea-
sons of the year. In winter they have
only to make a hole in the Ice and
put down their lines. - The Indians
are very superstitious & perform every
thing they do with a great deal of ceremony.

and unnecessary trouble. Bills, feet, feathers of Birds & various other humbles are fastened to their fishing nets. The first fish caught feed out in a new net are not to be scolded in water but broiled on the fire-hole & the flesh carefully taken from the bone without dislocating one joint, after which the bones are thrown on the fire and burnt, any neglect in the observance of this rule would render the net not worth a farthing. When they fish in rivers or narrow channels that join two lakes, by putting two or three nets together they might intercept every sizeable fish that passes, but they place them at a considerable distance from each other, from a notion that one net would be jealous of its neighbour, and by that means not one of them would catch a single fish. When angling, their bait consists of a combination of articles by way of charms, no one would put a hook into the water without such trash.

When two parties of Indians meet accidentally, they make a full halt within 20 or 30 yards of each other, in general they sit or lie down on the ground, & don't speak for some minutes. At length one breaks silence by acquainting the other party with every misfortune that has befallen himself & his companions, since they last saw or heard from each other, & also all the deaths and calamities that had befallen any other Indians. When the first has finished his relation another aged man belonging to the other party relates in like

manner all the bad news that has come to his knowledge & both parties seem glad to plead poverty & famine. If their stories contain any news that affects the other party, it is not long before some begin to sigh and sob, and soon all the men, women and children join in one universal wail. The young girls in particular are very obliging on these occasions. This being done they mix with each other, and as all the bad news has been expounded, the good has now super-^{posed} the predominance that soon nothing but smiles & cheerfulness is seen on every face. The women are not allowed to mix in any division nor to be present at a feast, hence the whole of their life is one continued scene of suffering, however they are perfectly reconciled to their lot, their senses seem almost as dull ^{as} the stone they inhabit but perhaps it wants only a little indulgence and precept to make them as happy & content as women in any part of the world.

The Indians have not seem to possess any religious ideas. They have a curious tradition of the origin of Man, they say the first person on earth was a woman who after being some time solitary in her recesses one day she found an animal like a Dog, which followed her to the Cave where she lived and soon grew fond and domestic. This dog they say had the art of transforming itself into a very handsome young man, which it often did at night, but as the

Day approached it resumed its former
shape, so that the women looked upon
what passed on these occasions as a
delusion or illusion. - However the
children of the world began to increase in
number. - Not long after this had
passed a man of surprising height also
had reached the clouds beneath level
the land which was a very wide trap.
and by the help of his walking stick,
he marked out all the lakes, ponds,
rivers and caused them to be filled with
water. - He tore the Boy to pieces, and
threw the parts into the lakes & rivers,
commanding them to become fish;
the flesh he distributed over the land
to become land animals; the skin
he threw into the air to become birds.

After which he gave all to the woman
and her offspring to kill & serve spare,
for that he had commanded them to
multiply for her use in abundance.
After this injunction he returned to
the place from whence he came, &
has not since been heard of. -

The Indians have great faith in
Medicines, but don't ask for any thing
unless it is of a fine color. - A leeching
themselves when any are ill, the office of
Doctor is performed by the Conjurers
in many cases, sucking the part affe-
cted, blowing upon it, singing to it, spitting,
& uttering a heap of unintelligible
words, you cost more the whole proceeds of course.

The inward complaints such as griping
of the intestines, difficulty of making
water, or it is very common to see these

Jugglers blowing into the lungs or parts
adjacent till their eyes are almost starting
out of their head and this operation is per-
formed indifferently on all, without regard
to age or sex. - The accumulation of
a quantity of air is apt to occasion some
extraordinary accidents with ease, & is
suffered by a sick person, and at these
is sent for it, but by this the channels
thru which it was conveyed thither, it
sometimes occasions an odd scene between
the Doctor & his patient. - The great part
these jugglers take to deceive their credulous
countrymen is admirable, while at the
same time they are indefatigably per-
suing in their efforts to relieve them.

Not being very delicate they frequently
continue the windy process so long,
that the Doctor will quit his patient with
his face and breast in rather a very
disagreeable condition. - Laughable as
this may appear to a European, custom
makes it no incident in their opinion
to turn any thing of the kind to ridicule.

I was yesterday amused with an Indian
woman named Nancy Johnson who spoke
English very fluently, after a great deal of
business I barked her. - her Capt.

A large party sat down to an excellent
dinner of Venison & Gooseberry pudding,
guiding the number of visitors increas-
ing. I thought it right to return
to the Ship in the afternoon. Mr
Donnell and Mr Arch McDonald from
the Colony accompanied me and
we spent a very social & convivial
evening on board the Ship. - In Capt

...master of the Schooner that is lying
along side of us. I met with a Comanche
and his neighbour, he comes from
Cora-hill near Goldstream

In returning to Bed about midnight it
occurred to me that while I was walking
in smooth and jolly in the Western
hemisphere, my friends in Britain were
then pursuing the avocations of another
day. - The night was disagreeable
raining & the wind very high from S.W.

Tuesday, Aug²⁹ The two Mr^s Gosses
and Capt. Davidson went ashore in the morn-
ing but I remained on board all day.

Towards the after part of the day almost
all the men were drunk & suspicious they
were pursuing spirits in a very improper
manner I was going below to see, when
I accidentally fell down a hatchway into
the hold and hurt myself a good deal.

Wednesday, Aug³⁰ - I did not
sit all day long with my hands in my
arms as was the custom, I understood
that York was quite gay last night,
there was a dance at which all the
Indian women were present and as many
of the English as chose. - One of the
young women we brought out was to
be married today and probably there
would be another ball in the evening.

The weather all day very fine,
blowing strong from the N.W. all
the fore part of the day. - The
night was clear & serene the Aurora
Borealis illuminated the sky.

Tuesday, Aug³¹ The day extremely
fine. all the cargo was got out of the
Ship in the forenoon and it was ordered
as she should go to sea by the evening
tide but the wind got directly contrary
and I ventured on shore. - The few
people ashore were all preparing for
another marriage, a young girl we
had brought out of the name of Mrs.
Liberty McRay was to bestow her hand
on a Donald McRay. - The ceremony
took place at ten the evening in
presence of Mr Temple the Governor
in chief, and a large party ^{of the whites} of the
Settlers themselves they were married
by James Sutherland the Chaplain
in the Gaelic language, which he
did in a very solemn and improper
manner, the verbal part of the cere-
mony was followed by the signing of
the marriage contract, which I sent
my name to. this was immediately fol-
lowed up or accompanied by Drums all
round, next dancing commenced
was kept up with great spirit till
11 o'clock. many Indian women were
present, they dance very well and
seem fond of it, the Governor also
graced the occasion with his presence
the last part of the marriage ceremony
was putting the Bride to Bed. (but
I was not present at that, as I went
to Bed in Mr Mc Donnell's tent as
soon as the dance was done. The

During the night before was also very
quieted and select. Mr. Ross the
Indeavour of yesterday made me
some very handsomely presents of
curiosities.

Friday Sept 1st at
but not to sleep, the night was very
boisterous, and the rain pepping on
the tent and the anxiety of being astor
while the Ship was likely to sail,
occided the wind of the morning
vents drove all sleep from my eyes.

At 2 I was called up as a boat was
going down. - it was raining hard and
blowing from the Eastward, quite to
the man which was over our passage
down very disagreeable, and slow,
at last the P. D. turned against us
the wind increased and we could not
proceed, after having nearly reached
the Ship, we were obliged to return
to the factory. - The weather contin-
ued very disagreeable all day.

A young man Mr. Sutherland told it
into his head today to be married and,
as he had been unsuccessful in gaining
the affections of any, he applied to
me to woo for him by proxy, but
I was equally unsuccessful, he would
by no means be a favourite.

I took up my Quarters for the
night again in a Tent with Mr. W.
Donell and spent it very comfortably
indeed, altho the weather was boisterous,

Saturday Sept. 2nd I was called at
6 o'clock this morning, the wind was
almost fair, but not so as to allow
the Ship to get under weigh.

The Morning was quite foggy,
the ground was covered with Snow.
At 9 I had Advice to York Post
and went down to the Ship. I should
have observed that the man of War
came in on Thursday.

About 7 this evening a large Bear
was seen swimming past the Ship,
and 3 Bears went in pursuit of it,
he was shot by one of the Men of War
Officers and conveyed on Board in
triumph.

Sunday, Sept. 3rd. The weather was
very fine, and an attempt was made to
get to Sea, but unfortunately it was
an unsuccessful one, for after proceeding
a little way the wind failed and we were
obliged to run back to the anchoring
ground.

Monday, Sept. 4th. The wind re-
mains as fair as possible and blowing
strongly at night rising.

Tuesday, Sept. 5th. - Still continues
at York and bound.

Wednesday, Sept. 6th. - The day
having gales from the N. E. quite
against us, with cold, bleak, very
disagreeable weather. - In the after-

now it cleared up and I believe the people commenced their journey to the Red River. - it will be an arduous undertaking for them. - and probably they will not accomplish it in less than 8 weeks: the distance can hardly be ascertained. - The country which they are going to colonize is a most important and extensive tract, it is almost unbounded. - consisting entirely of fertile plains which abound in Buffalo and Wild Horses, the rivers brim with Fish, - and there is no vegetable production that the soil will not bring forth 50 fold. - the plains are said to extend as far as Mexico. -

Thursday, Sept 7th. This morning the wind was just so far favorable as to enable us to get out of the Harbor, but it became as foul as possible before we got over the Shoals and the Capt. was apprehensive that the ship would get aground, however a brisk breeze sprang up and we soon saw the Point of York becoming unobscured.

Our object now is to get to Moose, the most Southern of the Company's Factories it is situated in $51^{\circ} 15' N. Lat.$ and $80^{\circ} 54' W. Long.$ at the bottom of a Bay called James' Bay, - but I doubt very much whether we shall be able to accomplish the voyage, for the season is already far advanced and if we

meet with much obstruction from Ice it perhaps will be advisable to bear up for Britain. -

There are two other Factories on the Coast between York & Moose, that of Severn on the River Severn next to York and Albany on Albany River in $Lat 52^{\circ} 11'$ and $Long 81^{\circ} 52'$ - lastly there is a 6th Factory that of East Main on the Labrador Country where the Soil and climate is good & capable of cultivation. - Besides these there are several Establishments in the interior, for the convenience of trading with the Indians. - the furthest off is Edmonton House it is said to be 2500 miles from York and not far from that the waters take their course to the Pacific Ocean. -

Friday, Sept. 8th. The wind as foul as possible and blowing a fresh gale so that we lose rather than gain ground. - The Capt. despaired of getting to Moose and proposes to go into Churchill if the wind lasts much longer.

Saturday, Sept. 9th. The weather still tempestuous, and in order to keep the Ice Shore which was much to be avoided we keep on the tack to the Northward until we were nearly in the Latitude of 60° indeed every thing has a dismal aspect.

Sunday, Sept 10th. The weather still very boisterous, but the wind much more in our favour. - we again are moving rapidly to the Southward and what is very fortunate we have met with no Ice yet.

Monday, Sept 11th. Fine, mild moderate weather and the wind favourable. - At noon we were in the lat: of 57° 6' 58" - about opposite to York.

Tuesday Sept 12th. Excellent weather and the wind fair. - This evening we made our entry into James Bay.

At noon in Lat 55° 57' 58".

Wednesday, Sept 13th. We continue gliding on very briskly. - The wind and weather all day have been equal to perfection. - At 8 in the morning we passed the Bear Islands, at noon in Lat. 54° 16' and in the course of these 24 hours, the Ship has run 175 Miles.

Thursday, Sept 14th. The wind today continued very favourable and we proceed rapidly towards the bottom of James Bay. In the forenoon we passed Charlton a large island which was in a cloud of smoke; it seems it has been on fire for some time, and the whole surface of the Island is consumed even to the drift wood on the shore. This is a circumstance which now then occurs from the carelessness of the

Indians in leaving their fires in a situation to communicate with the surrounding woods; but this is supposed to have been done by lightning.

In the afternoon we reached the roads where we found the Cuddy Stone lying at anchor ready for sea, only waiting for the Captain coming on board with his Dispatches; this is rather unfortunate for the Nation as Capt. Dawson is desirous to return with her laden or not laden, therefore it is possible we shall not gain the Harbour.

Venice, Sept 15. This morning I rose early to go up to Moose Fort. Mr King the Chief Mate accompanied me. The distance is 30 miles nearly we set off about 8 o'clock; about half way we found Capt. Fenner on board a Shaloupa on his way to the Cuddy Stone. - we requested him to agree to stop until the Shaloupa got in a cargo of Beale, but he seemed positively determined to go to sea without delay therefore we proceeded to Moose with a Packet to the Governor. - Moose River is of considerable magnitude, and being full of beautiful Islands the scenery is delightful. - We stopped at an Island called Middleburgh, where a Schooner was taking on Beale to convey to the ship, and had a very convenient Landing Danish and some Warehouses were erected. 2 Gentlemen Mr Stewart and

partake of some sweet woods and early
potatoes, which we ~~did~~ with assented to
with all our heart. The Factory
stands upon a fine Island, 4 miles
higher up, we landed about a mile below
the Factory at a place called Point Pull
and be D. and walked up thro' a pleas-
ant avenue cut among the trees.

The face of the country is much
more luxuriant than about York as
indeed it ought, being in the same
parallel as London. - The Summer
weather is very temperate, sometimes
sultry but the winter is rigorous.

The Lake America, in general, the
country is a continued forest, - the trees
here are lofty, large and in great va-
riety, and shrubs which are grafted to
adorn the Gardens of Europe are here
growing in tire some profusion. - a
variety of fruits grow wild as at York.

Moose is in fact the Garden of the
country, but it is now much neglec-
ted and every one is expressing them-
selves dissatisfied with the changes that
have taken and are taking place. -

From 10 to 20 Acres of ground is cleared
of wood and affords pasture to a number
of Cattle. - but Cattle are preserved
with great difficulty owing to the
length of the winter and the impossibility
of laying a sufficient quantity of Hay
to support them. - There are several
gardens stored with useful vegetables,
and plenty of servants the finest of
over seas. In short Moose might be a

very fine place, if there was any degree
of regular annual visits and labors at
the head of affairs. - The women
here are very tolerable, some rather
pleasing, there are not so many of the
true Indians. - I spent a very plea-
sant evening with Mr Green the
Surgeon here and went to bed about
10 o'clock.

Saturday, Sept. 16th. I got up this morn-
ing long before day light, and walked
through the Woods to Point Pull where
the Boat was lying. It was my hard
fate to experience the same fortune
I did at York in a fruitless attempt
to get down to the Ship. the wind
was blowing hard against us, the
morning very cold and I got wet
to the skin. When we reached
Akebong we ^{was} glad to get ashore to get
some refreshment and recruit our
Spirits. on going off again I found
the weather so bad, that I thought
tharadous to proceed and indeed im-
possible, and I refused to expose myself
in the Boat nevertheless I walked
down along the shore that they
might pick me up if they could
go forwards, as our object was to get to
the Schooner which was laying a
few miles below; contrary to my
expectations they persisted in endeavor-
ing to wind and tide and I was obliged to get
a Boat to put me off to them, however

after all we were obliged to return to
Middelburgh after getting well drenched
with water.

All day the gale kept increasing
with torrents of rain, - we had shelter
from the weather, but that is all I
can say in praise of Middelburgh,
- Mr. Culloch paid us great attention
and made our situation as comfortable
as circumstances would admit. At
night we took our repose in the trees
Hudson's Bay stile upon the floor of
the Storehouse on a few Wood shavings,
but sleep was far from my thoughts,
the violence of the wind and pelting
of the Rain, made me tremble for the
safety of the Ships

Sunday, Sept 17th. This Morning
the effects of the tempest was visible
on every side. - Trees torn up by the
roots, ~~branches~~ broke thro' the middle
and branches torn off lying in every
direction. - In addition to this, on
looking down the river, I perceived
one of the Boats securely placed on
Terra firma, quite up among the
Bushes, and fortunate she was so, for in-
stead she had been carried upon a sand
bank all on board would have perished,
she is freighted with passengers and their
luggage for the Edgystone. - several
Boats also that had broke drift from
hoorings were seen floating up the river.
- God have mercy upon the Ships riding
without shelter, expose to the fury of the

Wind and Waves! This Morning it was
much more moderate but yet blow-
ing fresh. - we intended to the Schooner
and made ourselves welcome on board
of her, all day's night, but was judged
impracticable to get out to Sea. Three
Gentlemen from the Factory were on
board going down, so that we found
little better than we did yesterday.

Monday, Sept 18th. The Report
can a little lower down this morning,
but being unable to get over the bar
she again came to anchor. After
breakfast another attempt was made
with the boat, and the 3 Gentlemen man-
ing business of importance to do, wishing
if possible to get down, so that I was
very readily persuaded to stay where I
was, but after getting about half way,
they had again to put back. - We
tried it again with the afternoon
Tide, and got on board about 4 in
the evening. - We apprehended they
had a dreadful time during the gale,
the Madow drove with 2 anchors
a head, both cables broke and their only
remaining life was in the Short Nettle
and an old Cable which in ordinary
occasions could not have been trusted,
yet as it were by the immediate in-
terposition of Providence the boat held
and they were preserved from a melan-
choly Shipwreck; and all this night
have been avoided, but for the un-
accountable obstinacy of one man, Capt
Janner, who prevented the Madow coming

into a safe harbour as well as expose
himself and ship to danger, merely
to because he wants to show that he was
not influenced, advised, nor directed by
any one.

Tuesday, Sept. 19th. The weather
today proved most delightful, a complete
contrast to the weather of the few preced-
ing days. - The Mainwaring Schooner
got along side in the morning and
commenced discharging her Deals.

In the forenoon Mr Kinsley, Mr Christie
and Mr Stewart as Sheriff went on board
the Edgystone and put Capt. Turner
under arrest. Messrs Kinsley and Christie
afterwards returned on board the Hadlow.

In the afternoon Capt. Turner took his
boat and pulled away to the Chaloupe
which was burning down, he had left
his Dispatches in that Skop which was
aboard and probably he expected to find
them sent down by this one. - The

Sheriff was not along with him: im-
mediately Mr Kinsley got a boat & went
after him to the Chaloupe Mr C accom-
panied him. Soon after they returned:
Capt. Turner came along side & enquired
if his Packet was in the Hadlow? Capt
Barrison replied - he had not seen any
Packet come on board the Hadlow. Mr
Kinsley denied all knowledge of it.

Capt T would not come on board, he
seemed to be labouring under suspicious
and invitation. - About 10 P.M. Messrs
K. & Co. went away in the Schooner.

Wednesday, Sept. 20th. The weather
uncommonly fine, and the wind fair
for going to sea, but the Edgystone
showed no movement of that kind.

Thursday, Sept. 21st. This morning
a large Barge got alongside and
discharged a Cargo of deals. - The
weather very mild and pleasant.

Friday, Sept. 22nd. A charming
day. - No vessel down. - wind SW.
a foolish quarrel between chief and
2nd Mate. - former kept his Cabin
in the bulks.

Saturday, Sept. 23rd. The weather
all day exceeding fine, equal to
any September weather in England.

The schooner came alongside in
the morning with more deals which
were taken in, in course of the day:
Mr Christie came with her and in
the afternoon Capt Turner and
Mr Stewart the Sheriff, came on
board, and it was agreed the Ship
should sail this evening, as soon
as the Hadlow was clear for sea,
accordingly about 11 P.M. we were
under weigh. - and now with anxious
hopes, we hail the breeze that
wafts us to the happy shores of
Old England.

Sunday, Sept 24th A most lovely day, with gentle, easy breezes from the South, and we are gliding pleasantly along to the North. - At 8 A.M. saw the island of Charlton, said to have been burnt entirely, but this don't appear to be the case, there is yet plenty of trees. To the SW of Charlton a little way is a remarkable small Island called the Rock of Lisbon. - Charlton being very large it was still in sight in the evening.

Saw more Islands as we passed along, and at 7 P.M. we were abreast of the Gashott Shoal. - a low flat Island that can just be seen above water & no more.

Monday, Sept 25th The wind contrary but moderate. - Very foggy all forenoon, less so in the after part of the day. - The Edystone in company.

Lat: in 53° 30' N.

Tuesday, Sept 26th All day blowing a fresh gale from the Northward, quite against us. - with cloudy weather, and showers of small hail. - a great contrast to the fine warm sunshine weather we had 2 days ago.

Lat: in 53° 37' N.

Wednesday, Sept 27th All day the wind quite fair. - At 8 P.M. we were opposite to Cap. Patten's Point, which is the Northern extremity of James Bay. - therefore once more we are in Anderson's Bay. -

Wednesday, Sept 28th or rather Thursday. The Wind not altogether fair, but nearly so. - The weather excellent. - the Nights clear, and the Aurora Borealis brilliant. -

Lat: in at Noon 57° 10' 35".

Friday, Sept 29th Every thing favorable.

Lat: in 58° 30' N.

Saturday, Sept 30th During the night and all forenoon, blowing a strong gale from the Northward, with a heavy sea and showers of snow at times. - In the afternoon it became quite moderate.

Lat: in 59° 17' N.

Sunday, Oct 1st Blowing a strong gale from the SW, quite in our favour. - during these 24 hours saw North 120 miles.

Lat: in at Noon 60° 14' N.

Monday, Oct 2nd The wind North-easterly, and consequently unfavorable, though is rather moderating, for if we were 30 miles further north, we should be at the entrance of Hudson's Straits & then the Wind would be quite fair.

Lat: at Noon 62° 0' N.

Tuesday, Oct 3rd This morning we were off Cape Pembroke in the Gulf of Southampton, in Lat: 62° 57' N.

and 02.15 D. Long - The Snow capt
mountains rise from a striking con-
tract to the woody plains and flowery
groves of Rupert's Land; but now being
within the limits of stern Winter's vast
dominion, we expect only to behold
desolation, barrenness with all their
concomitant attendants. - The Thermo-
meter this morning was as low as 24°
did not rise higher than 26 in the course
of the day. - Being snow missed
at the Mouth of the Strait, the wind
is blowing from the SE right ac-
cording to us. In the afternoon a large
body of Ice was seen to windward,
we backed from it and stood a while
to the Northward. - After dark we
came through a good deal of stinging
ice; and the bright reflection on the
haziness by all round the Horizon is
an indication of much snow; in-
deed it is not surprising that there
should be; but rather that we should
have been so long in meeting with it,
when but 6 weeks ago there was such
an abundance; but it is found to dis-
appear very rapidly, and no one knows
how, for it never has the appearance
of decay: it is believed by some to sink
but nobody ever sees it sinking; in
fact it does not appear to be satisfac-
torily ascertain'd in what way it
becomes evanescent.

Wednesday, Oct. 4th. The wind
partly good and the weather mild.

cool of course. Thermometer at 24°
Most part of the day amongst Ice,
towards evening came out again into
free water nearly at the place we
entered the Sea.

Lat: in 62° 54' N

Thursday, Oct. 5th. Much im-
proved with Ice, after trying a number
of courses to procure a passage through
we were obliged to give up, and endeavor
to get back again into the water to the
Westward. - The Eddystone being
company, makes things appear much
more cheerful, than to be in a dilem-
ma of this kind alone. - Capt. turned
aphores many times in course of the
day to ask Capt. D's opinion. -

Saw the tracks of several Bears
upon pieces of Ice, but none of the
animals have been seen yet.

At Noon the Thermometer was down
to 22° but afterwards rose to 24°.

Lat: Obs: 62° 53' N

Friday, Oct. 6th. Circumstances be-
gan to wear rather a serious aspect, -
our prospects of getting forward by no
means improve. - After having work-
ed a considerable way amongst loose
Ice with here and there a little open
water it was found impossible to get
any further in that direction.

Amongst the Ice the winds are usually
very gentle and the sea being quite

still very readily frozen, - besides the
old snow is pretty extensive, the thermom-
eter in the morning was down to 49°
below the freezing point. Fortunately
the wind today is from the Eastward, and
we run out by a lane of water between
two bodies of Ice into the Open Sea to the
Westward. - After getting out we run to
the Southward along the edge of the Ice,
which seems to extend due North and
South, forming an impenetrable
barrier across the Straights.

In the afternoon spoke Capt. Turner
and agreed to run 100 Miles further
South to round the South end of
Heansfield Island and endeavour to
procure a passage between it and the
Mainland, if that attempt should
prove abortive, I fear the only remain-
ing alternative is to winter in the
country.

Meridian Lat: 62° 30' N

Saturday, Oct. 7th. Morning with
ice during the night, heavy till day,
which and then proceeded to the Southward.

The whole of the night and forenoon
it snowed incessantly, so as to render it
impossible to see to any distance, at 10
o'clock we again fell in with Ice ahead and
on each side, in fact we had only run
down to the bottom of a deep bay, and it
was necessary to steer N.W. and afterwards
South to get clear of it. A large Bear
followed us some way along the edge of the Ice,
which by his gait, seemed to reportment
ourselves by impatience with our difficulties.

At 4 P.M. it cleared up, and we found ourselves
close upon the bold shore of Resolute Southern
Island. Our attempt to go to the Southward
having been in some degree frustrated,
Capt. Turner immediately spoke us, and
was agreed once more to try to the Southward
to work along this coast and endeavour
to get round to the North of the Sea.

Hope, springs eternal in the human breast,
Man never is, but always to be blest.

After dark we for a while lost the Company
of the Eddystone, by her going on one side
of a patch of Ice and we the other, this was
rather an unfortunate occurrence, nearly
a fatal one to us, - for company under
present circumstances is not only im-
tually desirable, but the Sea was setting
so fast down upon the shore, that we could
not stand more than 3, 4 or 5 minutes
upon a tack, and being dark the shore did
not appear more than a Stone's throw off,
from 6 till 10, we were tacking in this way,
at last we got round the Sea, stood off some
distance and joined the Eddystone laying
too under a Patch of Ice.

W. S. C. A. 1/1 W. K. 11/10/87.

Sunday, Oct 8th. Today we had
plenty of water but it was nearly calm
greater part of the day, and we made but
little progress. - In the evening a fine
breeze sprang up and we started Capt.
Capt. D went on board the Eddystone in
the afternoon and came back in high spirits,
I recommended however, not to indulge in
too flattering hopes, in case of disappoint-
ment, and then we should be better
prepared to bear it, for my own part

I can see no cause yet for fostering any more sanguine expectations than before, my opinion is found, that we must inevitably be detained in the country, and shall not alter my ideas, until I see some evident outlet, and a coincidence of favorable circumstances.

Monday, Oct. 9th This morning the Captain made me saying, he was sorry he should be the harbinger of bad news, but that the Ice extended quite round to the Southward in with the land at Sea three points, and our object now is to make the best of our way to the Southward, to make an attempt round the South end of Mass: Pt. field our only remaining resource, which indeed is a very hopeless one, if it proves abortive our next step will be to run for some convenient place to spend the winter.

In the afternoon Capt. D went on board the *Edgystone* to consult with Capt. Turner what was best to be done. Dr. Edson wished to persevere for 10 days longer, but Capt. T. who is a man of great experience, having been 50 years in the service, considered it hazardous to persevere any longer, and thinks it would be proper to run down to the bottom of the Bay immediately and secure safe winter quarters, for by continuing too long here, the winds and season may prevent the possibility of returning when we wish, and the preservation of our lives ought to be tantamount to every other consideration. Capt. Turner

is much agree with myself, that I am perfectly satisfied with the resolutions now found.

All day there has been a fresh breeze from the S.W. and the temperature of the weather has been mild for the last 3 days.

Tuesday, Oct 10th The die is cast! At 1/2 past 7 this morning Capt. Turner made the signal to be away, which is certainly the most prudent measure that could be adopted for the preservation of the Ship and lives of the people. The wind being most fair for Chertowen and it being the nearest Port we stood for that place instead of going to the Island of Charlton as was at first intended. - Churchill will have some advantages over the latter place, there being a House there ready for our reception with every convenience, at Charlton we should have had to build our own House or Huts, but there are plenty of Wood to afford us shelter and firing. - There are no woods at Churchill.

In laying up a Ship here for the winter, it requires a little care to select a proper place. It ought always to be where the land is low, if woody is much the better, that the snow may not drift, on the contrary, if you go into a snug Harbour well sheltered by high lands all round, the Snow blows off the hills into the valley the Ship becomes covered

pleasantly received, and all must our
capacities perish. - A few years ago at
Albany an Indian paddling along
shores in his Canoe one very pleasant day,
saw a fine Island at a little distance and
pulled away to it, there he found a fine
lot of wood set up, with an inscription con-
taining on it "To the Memory of Cap^t Lt. Knight
who wintered on this island with three
ships and 123 men in the year 1640. It
had stood 115 years. - The Indian cut
it down with his Axe and took it home
of the Factories. - it was sent home and
is now preserved in the Hudson's Bay House.

The same Cap^t Knight when a very old
man undertook a Voyage of discovery to
the Northern parts of this Bay, and winter-
ing at Marble Island, a degree or two to
the North of Churchill. - In the Ship,
all the crew perished, it was supposed from
the Circumstances above alluded to.

Three years ago the Prince of Wales
wintered at Hudson's Sound close by
Charlton and all did very well. - For
sincerely when the Navigation of these seas
was first understood, the Ships always
stayed the winter, it being deemed
impossible to complete the voyage
in one year. - The Climate will
indeed be severe and rigorous and we may
expect to suffer some little hardships,
but these are once trifles in my eyes,
and I only dispel the alarm and
apprehensions my long absence
will create at home, as it will be
several months before the account
can be conveyed to Britain.

Wednesday, Oct 11th. After all, our
destination is to be down the Bay,
Capt. Innes spoke us last night and
asked which we should go to, Capt.
Davidson gave the preference to down
the Bay, and we altered our course
accordingly. - I must confess I was
rather disappointed, I wished to go
to Churchill, but perhaps it will
be better upon the whole.

The wind all day has been
favorable. - the weather quite
temperate, indeed very rainy.

In the evening I took an Inven-
tory of all my Clothes &c, and made
my Will, in case of my Decease
in this Country.

Thursday, Oct 12th. All day the
wind quite fair - weather mild and
foggy. -
At Noon - Lat. 58° 21' N

Friday, Oct 13th. Blowing a strong
gale from the NW. with Showers of
Snow. - Having lost sight of the Icebergs,
done during the night, we kept steering
rather to the westward in hopes of meeting
with her, but by doing so we got upon
a Shoal which extends out a long way
from Cape Henrietta Maria at the entrance
of James Bay, and we were obliged to
run to the Eastward all afternoon to get
into the proper Channel.

Saturday Oct 14th. Moderate breeze
and snowy weather during the fore part
of the day. all the after part it blew in
strong gale from SW. at 7 P.M. hove to
for the night. - at 5 we passed the Bear
Islands.

Lat in at Noon 54. 54' N

Sunday, Oct 15th. The weather
today was very fine but the wind quite
against us. During the forenoon we
were making in towards the Islands
called Twins which are totally barren.
at Noon tacked and stood to the West-
ward, at 4 saw the Island of Gromiska
which lays off about opposite to Albu-
roy. it is covered with Trees. - tacked
again and stood over to the Twins
continues beating to seaward.

Have seen nothing of the Eddy-
stone, probably she has arrived.

Lat: at Noon 53. 10' N

Monday, Oct 16th. Heavy rain,
and a contrary wind all the fore part
of the day. all the rest calm or
nearly so.

Tuesday, Oct 17th. All the early
part of the Morning the wind was fresh,
about 10 it veered round in our favour
immediately a thick fog set in, as if
caused by that perfect happiness or
fortune without a single colden fall
to the lot of man, however in a few
hours it cleared up and very unexpect-
edly we saw the Eddystone, she was

right running sight for the Gasket
Shoal and had it not cleared up, she
would have got into an awkward situa-
tion, as it was, she struck upon the end
of the Shoal. - This about 30 years ago
was a low reef of sand just appearing
above the surface of the water, and it
has kept gradually rising, till now,
it grows an Island of some extent with
Grass and Bushes upon it, but except
of sand proceed from it to the distance
of some miles, making it very
dangerous & troublesome to the Ships.
In the afternoon Capt D. went on board
the Eddystone, and they agreed to go
first to Strutton Sound where the
Prince of Wales wintered a few years
ago, and examine it, if they don't like
it to go to Charlton. Strutton Islands
are between Charlton and the main
and only 1/2 miles from East Main
Factory.

The weather is extremely fine
equal to that of October in England,
with a fine gentle breeze from the
SW.

Lat in at Noon 52. 35' N

Wednesday, Oct: 18th. Fine mild
still weather and gentle breeze from
the Northward. At 4 P.M. the Trees at
the North end of Charlton were just be-
ginning to peep above the horizon.
Kept running South till we got
round the small Island called Rock
of Lisbon then bore away to the Eastward

towards our winter quarters. - at 6 P.M.
we dropped anchor under Darby's Island
about 2 miles from the shore, this &
other small islands are contiguous to
Charlton. - An insulated hill on the
mainland called Shamrock's Mount is
seen from here.

Thursday Oct 19th M.S. S.H.
got under weigh with the wind to
quite against us, and blew to windward
along the South end of Charlton. some
times we were pretty near the mainland
to the Southward which at one part
juts a long way into the sea. - In
the afternoon it blew hard with strong
rain. - we might have gone into
Charlton but Capt. Searon seems
determined to go to Struttan Sound
at all events, and we kept beating
to windward all night.

Friday, Oct. 20th The whole of
the morning the rain fell in torrents
M.S. S.H. we dropped anchor in Struttan
Sound in company with the Edystone.
The Sound is about a mile in length
and runs from one island to the other
not more than a stone's throw or two,
it is a very snug harbour, but the
tide runs extremely rapid through
it rendering it rather dangerous to
the Ships at the breaking up of the
Ice. - a small circular island lies
in the opening at one end. - on one
of the Islands there is a wretched wooden
house and close by it the skeletons of

of 5 or 6 boats where the crew of the
Prince of Wales wintered in 1811. at a
little distance the grave of Mr. B. and
the chief mate (who died at that time
surrounded with Stone-walls. The
trees on the Islands are chiefly pines and
all very slender in places they are grow-
ing out of the bosom of Rocks. - In
England perhaps the place would be
thought romantic and beautiful.
but to those who have now the gloomy
prospect of spending a long dreary win-
ter upon it, it has a very wild, desolate
chilling aspect; and the badness of
the weather helped to add to the gen-
eral gloom. - In the afternoon it cleared
up and the Sun beamed with cheer-
ful lustre over the Trees arrayed
in the variegated foliage of autumn.

What was very unlooked for a
boat was seen pulling into the
Sound; it proved to come from
a little vessel that was blown on
shore yesterday, they saw our boat
over the Island and came to see
what was what.

Saturday, Oct. 21st The weather
continues very fine, though blowing
rather strong from the Westward.
The vessel which was ashore yesterday
today and came into the Sound.
In the afternoon I went ashore
to the sea the Island and Horse Island
for the winter abode of the Officers of



the 2^d Ships. It had at first a very
shoddy appearance but Carpenters were
employed putting it into a state of repair
and already it puts on a very decent
appearance; the men live in tents
till another House is made for their
reception. - I took a tour over the
Lie to the West of the House - which
is now nearly barren, the repeated
deluges from the melting of the Snow
has washed nearly the whole of the
Trees up by the roots, which lay dead
about in a state of decay, and the soil
being all swept away from the same
cause there is nothing to repair the
wreck of time. however the prodigious
sea land of nature has clothed the
ragged Stones with a profusion of
Bearberries, Blueberries, Black-
berries & several other Berries, in
the hollows and flat ground there is
plenty of Wood. - I was not a little
surprised to find an Indian woman
sitting under the shade of a tree by
the side of a Rock. - her husband
was in the little vessel, and as he
was on board one of the Ships, he had
first put her here, for particular
reasons, he not choosing to leave
her along with him. - such is
the cautious care of the husbands
over their wives in the Country.

There are several small lakes on the Islands which are frequented by Geese and Ducks and there are plenty of Partridges in the winter. -

In the evening I went on board the *Eddestone* and tomorrow morning I go off in her Long Boat for East Main Factory where it is agreed I shall spend the winter. -

Sunday, Oct 22nd This morning I set off for East Main in an open Boat: Having a good breeze we run it in 3 hours and a half. - but got myself well soured with wet. -

East Main River like the other rivers in the country is broad, but full of shoals and Islands: we could not get near enough the Beach to land, but the Governor and an old woman came off in a Canoe and took me ashore.

The Canoes are made of Birch Bark sewed together and the seams coated over with Gum that exudes from the Trees; they are as crazy and as light as an Egg shell comparatively speaking, and it is necessary to sit very still in the bottom of the Canoe to prevent its upsetting, those who paddle sit on their haunches also in the

bottom of the Canoe. - they are usually loaded for short rivers and for going along the Sea Coast, as they will run ashore on the dry sand let the water be ever so shallow, whenever circumstances require it. They are also very useful in being portable, as sometimes in travelling in the summer time it is necessary to carry a small Canoe in order to pass over rivers and Lakes. Journeys are generally performed in parties with Indian guides, it is impossible for a single person to find his way to any distance, except by following the course of rivers, which indeed is the usual mode both in winter and summer for it is very difficult to force a passage through the woods.

East Main is in Labrador situated on the banks of a River in about the Lat: of 52°. The House and Offices are well planned and newly new, and the place is very well supplied with cattle.

At Resfulle the Governor's Native is a very pleasant Man and M^{rs} R. the most agreeable woman I have met with in this country, she is of

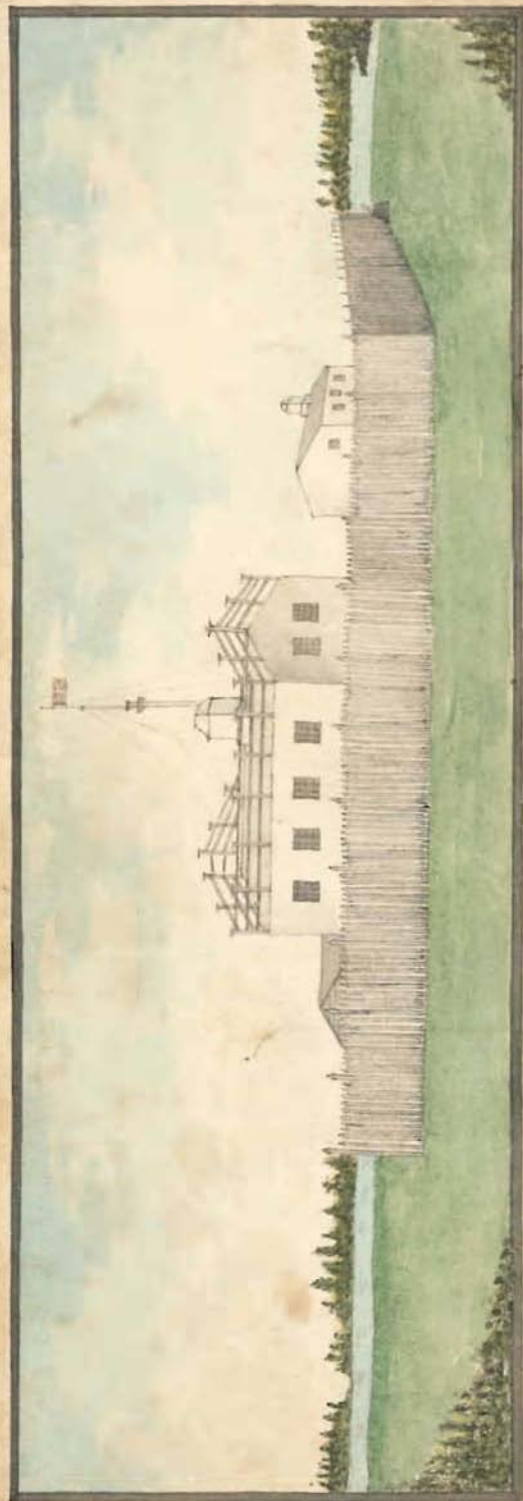
of the society and convertible & speaks
the English language with perfect fluency
so that I flatter myself with the hope
of spending a very comfortable winter,
and am perfectly satisfied with my
new habitation.

The weather today was bleak and
cold, some snow fell and every thing
begins to indicate the commencement
of winter.

I had formed some ideas of going
of going overland to the United States
with the Company's dispatches and
passed with them to Britain, but
Mr. Russell, who was the first and the
last who performed this journey, has
completely disposed ^{me} of every wish
I had for so doing. The hardships
and difficulties that have to be
encountered are almost beyond
description, and altho' all that
party were men of the most hardy
constitution and well experienced in
the country, yet their fortitude
must die within them, and they were
nearly falling the victims of despair.
Life became a burthen to them and
they invoked death to put an end to
their sufferings. The Cold was some-
times 60 degrees below the Cypher
or 92° of Frost, during which for
nearly 4 months they slept on the

snow sometimes a few bunches of
reeds for a Mattress sometimes not,
the Country of Heaven their certain
frequently the Ice broke in coping
rivers, and their limbs were instantly
encased in Ice, besides meeting with
falls down precipices, and suffering
the pangs of hunger; had the East
traders not furnished them with
food at their Posts they must have
have starved to death, but such
was their perseverance that they
accomplished the undertaking;
however under such circumstances
as those above related I can hardly
be taxed with cowardice for endeavor-
ing to avoid so many formidable
obstacles. For the noise of a winter in
the extreme parts of the Western Hemisphere
is almost beyond the conception of an
European, and the hardships that bear
withal undergo in that season incredible;
they are such as can only be endured
by men of the strongest resolution, and
who are accustom'd to them by custom and
long residence in the Country.

After but a few days residence at
Eastmain I received an order from Capt
Davison to return to Sturton's, it was
not complied with at that time, and
the consequent commencement of winter
precluded all further intercourse for
some time.



A South View of East Main House, in Labrador, North America. A. X. 1795

A List of the various Animals in
the Hudson's Bay territories.

Buffaloe, Moose, Wild Horses, Deer,
Musk Ox, Beaver, Wolf, Foxes of
various colors viz Black, White, Silver,
Red and Mixed, Lynx, Wild Cat, Polar
or White Bear, Black Bear, Brown
Bear, Isabellia Bear, Wolverine,
Otter, Sackash, Weasels, Skunk, Marten,
Ermine or Mink, Musk Beavers,
Porcupine, Varying Hare, American
Hare, Common Squirrel, Ground Squirrel,
Castor Beaver, Mice of various
kinds. - Traps of various sizes and
colour, a great variety of Grubs and
Insects. Sand Flies and Mosquitoes
disturbingly numerous.

Of Marine Animals

The Walrus or Sea Horse, Seal and
Sea Unicorn, Black Whale, White
Whale, Salmon and Herring.

The Rivers abound in excellent
Fish, the principal of which is the
Sturgeon. - Tullibug, Murret,
Cat Fish, &c &c.

Principle Birds

Eagles of various kind, Hawks,
White or Snowy Owl, Grey or
Mottled Owl, Horned Owl, Raven,
Benenous Crow, Cobadeccoosh,
Woodpeckers, Ruffed Grouse, Pheasant
Wood Partridge, Willow Partridge

Rock Partridge, Pigeon, Redbreasted
Thrush, Goshawk, Snow Bunting,
White crowned Bunting, Lapland
Finch, Lark, Titmouse, Swallow,
Martin, Hopping Crane, Brown Crane,
Plover, Curlew, Snipe, Red Godwit,
Plover, Black Gallinuleet, Northern
Plover, Black throat Diver, Red
throated Diver, White Gull, Grey Gull,
Black head Pelican, Gooseander,
Swan of 2 species, Common Grey
Goose, Canada Goose, White or
Snow Goose, Blue Goose, Horned
Grebe, Laughing Goose, Brown
Goose, Brent Goose, Diver Goose,
Wren Goose, Ducks in great variety
and many other Birds and Beasts.

The Buffalo is larger than the
English black cattle, when both Indians
are skinning one they never attempt
turning it over while entire. The
head is so large that one man can
hardly lift it. The Hoof is excellent.
The hair is soft & curled nearly as
much as wool and some of it has
been manufactured into cloth, and
rings knitted with it, by the high
land women at Red River Colony.

The Moose Deer is another large ani-
mal being as large as a horse it has
of a great size. It is a very clumsy
animal.