

ARCTIC EXPEDITION (NORTH STAR).

EXPENSE of the ESTIMATES of the EQUIPMENT of Her Majesty's Ship "North Star"; and COPY of MINUTE of the Board of Admiralty respecting the Equipment of the "North Star," for the purpose of taking out a Supply of Provisions, &c. for the Crews of Her Majesty's Ships "Investigator" and "Enterprise," employed on an Expedition to the *Arctic Regions*.

(PRESENTED TO PARLIAMENT BY HER MAJESTY'S COMMAND.)

AN ESTIMATE of the EXPENSE of the EQUIPMENT of Her Majesty's Ship "North Star," for the purpose of taking out a Supply of Provisions, &c. for the Crews of Her Majesty's Ships "Investigator" and "Enterprise," employed on an Expedition to the *Arctic Regions*.

For the Repairs and Equipment of the Hull, and Masts, Yards and Stores for Sea	£.	s.	d.
For Wages of the Crew of Her Majesty's Ship "North Star," for Nine Months	6,086	-	-
For Victuals for ditto ditto	1,500	-	-
For Ordnance Stores	800	-	-
For Provisions, Stores, Coals, &c. for the "Investigator" and "Enterprise"	302	-	-
	4,000	-	-
TOTAL	£.	12,688	-

The whole Charge amounts to the Sum of Twelve Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty-eight Pounds.

Admiralty,
23 March 1849. }

F. Baring,
W. Cowper.

COPY of MINUTE of the Board of Admiralty respecting the Equipment of the "North Star," for the purpose of taking out a Supply of Provisions, &c. for the Crews of Her Majesty's Ships "Investigator" and "Enterprise," employed on an Expedition to the *Arctic Regions*.

Admiralty, 23 March 1849.

THE Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are under the necessity of laying a Supplementary Vote for the Relief of the Arctic Expeditions under Sir John Franklin and Sir James Ross, upon the Table of the House.

Their Lordships having been apprised by the last letters received from Sir James Ross, that it was his intention to direct the "Investigator" to land all the supplies, that she could spare, at Whaler Point, and to proceed to England, if no tidings of the expedition under Sir John Franklin were received by the whale ships now about to sail, leaving the "Enterprise" to prosecute the search alone, have consulted the highest naval authorities as to the probable consequences of this step.

They find it to be the unanimous opinion of those most conversant with the Polar seas, that such a separation of the ships under Sir James Ross would be most perilous to the ship remaining in the ice, and would, probably, neutralize the entire object of the expedition, if Sir John Franklin's party were to be discovered at a time when the "Enterprise" had nearly exhausted her own stores.

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They have, therefore, determined upon sending out a fresh supply of provisions for both ships, by the "North Star," which is now fitting for this purpose at Sheerness, with orders to proceed across Baffin's Bay, and as much farther as practicable, in the direction of Lancaster Sound and Barrow's Strait, looking out for the "Investigator" or her boats.

In the event of the "Investigator" not being fallen in with, the Commander of the "North Star" will be directed to land the supplies at such points on the south side of Lancaster Sound, or other places indicated by Sir James Ross, as may be accessible to the "North Star," in sufficient time to secure his return across Baffin's Bay, before the winter sets in.

The expense of Fitting the "North Star" for the ice will be £. 6,086, and the Wages of Crew, Stores and Provisions on board, £. 6,602, making £. 12,688 in all, which constitute the Supplementary Estimate now submitted to The House. But in addition to this, Her Majesty's Government has determined to offer a reward of £. 20,000, to be given to such private ship, or distributed among such private ships, of any country, as may, in the judgment of the Board of Admiralty, have rendered efficient assistance to Sir John Franklin, his ships or their crews, and may have contributed, directly, to extricate them from the ice.

(signed) *H. G. Ward.*

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STAT. DEPT.

BOARD OF TRADE.

(Presented to Parliament by Her Majesty's Command.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
23 March 1849.
