

the direction they were about to travel ; and, wrapping themselves in their furs, laid down to rest.

After advancing as far as 82° 40' north latitude, they were compelled by the drifting of the snow-fields to retrace their steps. They regained their ship on the 21st of August, and sailed for England.

In May 1829, Sir John Ross, accompanied by his nephew, James Clarke Ross, resumed the great task of Arctic exploration. Entering Prince Regent Sound, he found there the *Fury*—the dismantled ship abandoned by Parry five years before. The provisions on board of her proved a welcome resource for Ross and his followers.

On this voyage the Boothia peninsula was explored ; and the explorers spent four consecutive winters in Felix Harbour, without being able to release their ship, the *Victory*. They availed themselves of the unwelcome detention to familiarize themselves with the manners and habits of the Eskimos, of whom Sir John Ross, in his narrative, has recorded numerous interesting particulars.

On the south-west coast of Boothia Felix, Ross discovered the magnetic North Pole. But his health, and that of his men, now rapidly declined, and compelled them to make an effort to escape from their icy prison. In their boats they contrived to reach Prince Regent's Sound ; and after enduring the most terrible hardships were eventually sighted by a whaling-vessel. They were immediately received on board, when they learned that they had been saved by the *Isabella*, a ship formerly commanded by Captain Ross.

“I am Captain Ross,” said the rescued explorer.

“Captain Ross,” replied the crew of the *Isabella*, who had never seen him, “has been dead these two years.”

Satisfactory explanations, however, were speedily exchanged ; and it is unnecessary for us to state that Ross and his companions, on their escape from the horrors of a Polar grave, were most enthusiastically received in England.

We now come to Franklin's last and melancholy voyage.