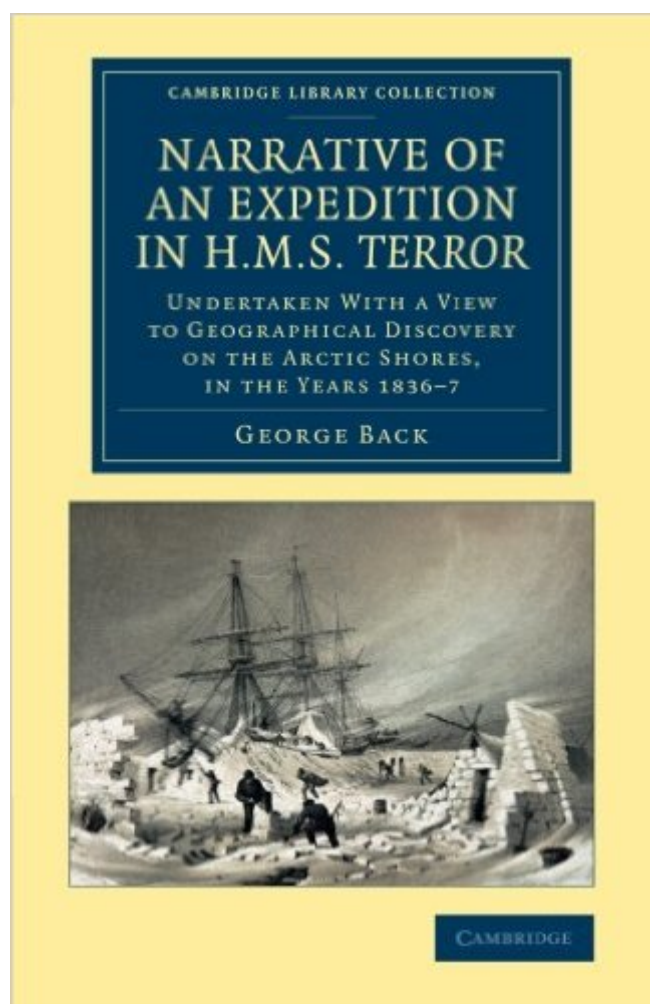


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Narrative Of An Expedition In HMS Terror: Undertaken With A View To Geographical Discovery On The Arctic Shores, In The Years 1836-7 (Cambridge Library Collection - Polar Exploration)





Synopsis

Having served on expeditions under John Franklin, the British naval officer Sir George Back (1796-1878) had already gained first-hand experience of Arctic peril and survival by the time he was appointed in 1836 to command HMS Terror. His mission was to survey uncharted coastline in the Canadian Arctic, yet Back's ship became trapped in ice near Frozen Strait and was unable to escape for ten months. In this account, first published in 1838, Back lucidly documents the developing crisis, noting the numerous preparations to abandon ship, the deaths of three of his men from scurvy, and the further damage caused by an iceberg after the Terror was freed. Against the odds, the ship managed to reach Ireland in 1837. Naturally, Back gives much credit to the durability of the Terror - originally a bomb vessel from the War of 1812, it had been further strengthened for Arctic service.

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