Shipboard Printing on the Franklin Search Expeditions: A Bibliographical Study of the *Plover* Press

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The ships that ventured into the Arctic in the 1850s searching for Sir John Franklin were not the first British ships to carry presses on board. The short, quirky roster of early British shipboard imprints includes a book of Italian poems by Giovanni Fantoni printed on the *Formidable* in 1782, an English translation of Spanish speeches on the Inquisition printed aboard the *Caledonia* in 1813, *The bloody journal kept by William Davidson on board a Russian pirate in the year 1789*, also printed on the *Caledonia* in 1812, and a broadside recruiting Creek warriors to join in the battle against the Americans printed off the Florida coast in 1814 on board the *Tonnant*.¹

The *Formidable* had confiscated its press as booty from the French *Ville de Paris* while the latter was stationed off the American coast during the Revolutionary War. The press on board the *Caledonia*

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¹ Fantoni, Giovanni. *Odi di Labindo*. A bordo del Formidabile, con permesso dell' ammiraglio Rodney, 1782. Ruiz de Padrón, Antoni José. *The speech of Doctor D. Antonio Joseph Ruiz de Padrón ...: [also] Bread and bulls, an apologetical oration ... by Don Gaspar de Jovellanos*. Mediterranean: Printed on board His Majesty's Ship Caledonia, off Toulon, 1813. Davidson, William. *The bloody journal kept by William Davidson on board a Russian pirate in the year 1789*. Mediterranean: Printed on board H.M. Ship Caledonia, 1812. *To the great and illustrious chiefs of the Creek and other Indian nations: hear! o ye brave chiefs and warriors of the Creek and other Indian nations: the great King George, our beloved father, has long wished to assuage the sorrows of his warlike Indian children given under our hands and seals, on board His Britannic Majesty's Ship Tonnant, off Appalachicola, the 5th of December, 1814*. A printing press may have been carried on board the *Phoenix* in 1776 when it was anchored in New York harbour, because counterfeit currency was printed on board as part of the British effort to disrupt the American economy during the Revolutionary War. The American currency at this time was usually a combination of letterpress and engraving. However, it is not clear which type of press was carried on the *Phoenix*. Cf. Kenneth Scott, "A British counterfeiting press in New York harbour, 1776," *The New-York Historical Society quarterly* 39, nos. 2-3 (April-July 1955), 117-120.

had been supplied by Admiral Pellew purely for the amusement of the crew during a blockade of the French port of Toulon in the Mediterranean.² The printing equipment that traveled on the Franklin search vessels, however, was not there by chance or for amusement. It was official cargo sanctioned by the Admiralty, and destined to play a vital role in the rescue mission.

Communicating with two lost ships in the largely-uncharted expanse of the Arctic posed a daunting challenge. The Admiralty adopted various schemes for contacting Franklin, some of them more fantastic than others. The ships were equipped to launch rockets, to flash blue lights, and to send up kites with smoke bombs attached. The rescue crews were given orders to tend fires all night, to beat drums and gongs, blow whistles, ring bells, and fire muskets at regular intervals. Most amazing of all was the scheme to write messages to Franklin, seal them up in copper cylinders, and attach the cylinders to the necks of foxes, in the hope that Franklin's men would catch a fox, and find the message.³ One of the more plausible schemes involved small pilot balloons that would float across the Arctic dispersing messages.⁴ It was in this enterprise that printing presses played such an important part.

A thick file of Admiralty correspondence in the Public Record Office charts the gradual development of the balloon scheme. John Hampton, a nineteenth-century aeronaut, was the first to suggest

2 G.F. Barwick, 'Books printed at sea,' *The Library* n.s., 1 (1900), 163-166. Howard M. Chapin, 'Early sea-presses,' *Ars typographica*, 2&3 (1925 & 1926) (Reprinted: Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Reprint Corp., 1970), [39]-52. Howard M. Chapin, 'More about sea presses,' *The American collector* 3 (1926), 86-88. Walter Hart Blumenthal, 'The bookman sets sail,' *Bookmen's bedlam* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1955), 58-59. The purpose of the press on board the *Tonnant* is not clear, but it may have been supplied to print propaganda (personal communicated from James A. Servies, Pensacola, FL).

3 Sherard Osborn, *Stray leaves from an Arctic journal* (London: Longman, Brown, Green and Longmans, 1852), 176-177.

4 For more information on the balloon scheme, including balloon construction, operation and pre-voyage trials, see: R.G. Auckland and K.B. Moore, *Messages from the sky over Britain* (Leeds: Psywar Society, 1998), 5-6; Robert Schoendorf, *Catalog of classic American airposts and aeronautica, 1784-1900* (Southfield, MI: Postilion Publications, 1982), 21-27; Peter J. Wordie, 'Franklin's balloon messages,' *Polar post* 30, no. 3 (Autumn 1998), 75-79.

the use of messenger balloons.⁵ Civil engineer George Shepherd made further recommendations that were carried out to the letter:

In each car [carried by the balloon] should be deposited a number of slips of coloured paper (this would render them distinguishable from the snow). The slips should be printed in a requisite form. Addressed to Sir John Franklin, the name of the ships in search of him, the longitude and lat., date when dispatched, the place to where the ships intended next to steer for and where provisions and information had been deposited.⁶

Such slips could have been (and in some cases were) pre-printed forms supplied to the ships before departure. It was actually a Mr. W.H. James who advised that presses be carried *on board*, listing various options: “lithographic or small printing presses, Wedgwood’s manifold writers &c. for rapidly multiplying dispatches”.⁷ The Admiralty chose the second option, “small printing presses.” And after December 1849, no Admiralty-sponsored search expedition set sail without one.⁸

Hundreds of balloons were sent up by the rescue ships and many thousands of printed dispatches were scattered over the Arctic. Illustration 1 reproduces a typical balloon message, released from John Ross’ *Felix* and probably printed on William Penny’s *Lady Franklin*. But the shipboard presses were not limited to producing balloon messages. The presses were also used to print cairn papers — records that played a role in the Admiralty’s most costly and extensive scheme to communicate with Franklin, the sledging expeditions.

5 Letter to the editor of *The Sun* from John Hampton (17 Nov. 1849)

6 Letter to the Admiralty from George Shepherd, 29 Nov. 1849. Public Record Office: ADM 7/608, Proposal 10.

7 Letter to the Admiralty from W.H. James, 28 Dec. 1849. Public Record Office: ADM 7/608, Proposal 28.

8 Since search ships traveled in pairs, only one ship of each pair was supplied with a press. Richard Collinson’s *Enterprise* carried one, but its companion ship, the *Investigator*, did not. William Penny’s *Lady Franklin* had a press on board, but the *Sophia* did not. Horatio Austin’s four-ship expedition had only one press because the vessels were intended to remain together. However, when Edward Belcher took the same squadron back to the Arctic a year after Austin’s return, the expedition carried two presses, because the Admiralty had directed that the squadron break up into two pairs to search in different directions.

- i. A balloon message released in 1850 or 1851 from John Ross's *Felix*, but probably printed aboard Horatio Austin's *Resolute* on white silk.
Actual size: 37 × 83 mm. From a private collection.

Early nineteenth-century Arctic explorers such as Edward Parry and John Ross had routinely buried handwritten documents under stone cairns as a safety precaution. The absence of such a record from Franklin dismayed the Admiralty, and they were determined not to lose a rescue party in the same way. Their orders to expedition captains warned:

Much of the painful anxiety that now exists respecting the missing ships might possibly have been avoided, if greater care had been taken to leave traces of their progress. You will consider it rigidly your duty, and a matter of the utmost importance, that every means should be adopted for marking your own track ...⁹

Documents left by the search captains to chart the ship's course were generally prepared in manuscript, because few were needed. But the spring sledging journeys were numerous, spreading out in all directions to investigate wherever the ships could not sail. Pre-printed forms offered obvious advantages. Before setting off, the leader of each small sledging party was given a packet of newly-printed cairn papers. One such cairn paper, used on Horatio Austin's expedition in 1850/51, is reproduced as Illustration 2. Every day a form was completed, placed in a cylinder, and buried underneath a pile of stones, thereby ensuring that if a party failed to return on schedule, its journey could be traced, and that if Franklin himself found such a message, he would be aware of the location of buried provisions and the possible whereabouts of rescue ships.

Despite the Admiralty's precautions, one of the search expeditions did go missing. Approaching the Arctic from the west, the *Enterprise* had become separated from its companion ship, the *Investigator*. By 1852, the former had not been heard of for a year, the latter not for two. Their supply vessel, the *Plover*, stationed patiently in the western Arctic since 1848, was due to take on Rochfort Maguire as new commander. It was also about to receive a press, even though it was not a search ship. For when Maguire accepted the commission in

9 'Instructions [from the Admiralty] to Mr. W. Penny,' *Arctic expeditions: report of the committee appointed by the lords commissioners of the Admiralty to inquire into and report on the recent Arctic expeditions in search of Sir John Franklin* (London : HMSO, 1852) (*Sessional papers, Accounts and papers* 50 (1852), no. 1435), 151. Similarly, the Admiralty's 'Instructions to Captain Austin, C.B.' read: "You will take the utmost care in leaving memorials of your track" *Ibid.*, 150. Orders to all search ship captains contained a statement to this effect.

2. A cairn paper printed in the spring of 1851 aboard Horatio Austin's *Resolute*.
Actual size: 95×138 mm. Courtesy of the National Archives of
Canada/Archives nationales du Canada.

December 1851, he had suggested to the Admiralty that the lost search ships could be contacted with the help of “the Esquimaux of the north coast [who] might easily be induced, by small offers of reward, to pass *printed* circulars ...”¹⁰ The Admiralty agreed to Maguire’s proposal, and on February 9 they authorized the princely sum of £5 for the purchase of a press.¹¹

According to Caslon specimens from the 1850s, the smallest Albion or Columbian table-top press would have cost at least £12 brand new, so the *Plover*’s £5 press may well have been second-hand. In fact, it could have been an Admiralty cast-off. An entry in the Admiralty correspondence index just below that which authorized funds for the *Plover* press, reads “New Lithographic & printing presses for Admiralty, ordered June 4.”¹²

When Maguire and his press left England for the Arctic in February 1852, they were accompanied by John Simpson, surgeon, and Edwin Jago, clerk-in-charge — the two men who were to become the *Plover*’s printers.

Born in Ireland in 1819, John Simpson had studied medicine for five years at the Universities of Dublin, Glasgow and Edinburgh before joining the Navy as an assistant surgeon in 1841. This was not Simpson’s first sojourn on the *Plover*. He had already served on that ship between 1848 and 1851. Upon returning to England he was promoted full surgeon and appointed to the *Plover* once more. He was 32 years old when he began this second commission on the *Plover* alongside Maguire and Jago. Like many medical men of the Victorian age, Simpson was a keen naturalist and ethnographer. He also displayed an interest in literary pursuits during his first stint on the *Plover*, having edited its manuscript newspaper, the *Flight of*

10 ‘Commander Rochfort Maguire’s proposal to communicate with Behring’s Strait with an auxiliary screw steam vessel [30 November 1851],’ *Arctic expedition: further correspondence and proceedings connected with the Arctic expedition ...* (London : HMSO, 1852) (*Sessional papers, Accounts and papers* 50 (1852), no. 1449), 105.

11 Index to Admiralty correspondence for 1852. Public Record Office: ADM 12/554, cut 2a (Accounts). “Printing press for Plover requested; allowed £5. Executed Feb. 9 [1852]”

12 Index to Admiralty correspondence for 1852. Public Record Office: ADM 12/554, cut 2a (Accounts). Confirmation is given in another section of the index, ADM 12/554, cut 5.1 (General), dated 4 June 1852: “Purchase of new litho & letter presses recommended for the Admiralty Ptg. Dept.” Unfortunately only these index entries concerning the presses survive; the correspondence itself appears to have been destroyed.

the Plover, or, North Pole charivari. He would have an opportunity to exercise his talents again under Maguire's command — this time in the editing of a *printed* newspaper.

Edwin Jago was slightly younger than Simpson. He joined the *Plover* at the age of 27, having served on the *Herald* for four years. While on the *Herald*, Jago had belonged to a literary circle, the "Poetical Assembly," whose members met weekly to recite their own poetry and prose. When the society was dissolved, the members elected Jago life president. With the help of a fellow member — the *Herald's* surgeon, Berthold Seemann — Jago compiled a history of the Assembly, which was published in Hannover in 1852.¹³ The tongue-in-cheek tone of the society is evident in Jago's remarks about some of his own literary efforts:

Mr. Jago wrote "a small piece," a kind of apology and a species of writing in which, from continued practice, he has acquired such a facility that he has favoured the Society with it on numerous occasions.¹⁴

Jago may not have been entirely happy on the *Plover*. There is no suggestion that he found there the easy camaraderie he had enjoyed on the *Herald*. Jago was also long overdue for promotion. When the crew returned home to England in 1854, Maguire explained the situation in a letter to John Barrow, Jr., Head of the Admiralty Record Office:

[Jago] is now becoming an old officer in his grade, who has been in some measure passed over from having been so many years employed in [the Admiralty's] out of the way voyages ... Mr. Jago's case, from his duty being of that nature not easily made conspicuous in the ship's duty, although highly necessary and useful, cannot be brought forward so much as I wish or as he deserves ...¹⁵

But the voyage north doubtless began on a more optimistic note for all three men. So eager were Simpson and Jago to experiment

13 Edwin Jago and Berthold Seemann, *The history of the Poetical Assembly, from the earliest period of its existence to the present time : compiled from authentic documents, and at the Assembly's special request* (Hannover, 1852).

14 *The history of the Poetical Assembly*, 74.

15 Letter to John Barrow from Rochfort Maguire, dated 14 October 1854. British Library: Barrow bequest (MS. Add. 35,308, f. 181-182)

with the press, that they tried it out during the stopover in Honolulu in May 1852. Simpson later wrote to John Barrow, Jr.:

The printing press was tried at Honolulu, Jago being compositor. The article produced was a list of books and I think you will consider it a fair specimen for a first trial. Moistening the paper to the proper degree seems to be the chief difficulty but a little practice will put us in the way of overcoming that.¹⁶

No copies of this first imprint of the press (P1)¹⁷ appear to have survived, but the deep type-bite typical of *Plover* imprints testifies to enthusiastic paper dampening!¹⁸ Simpson's awareness that paper should be dampened before printing strongly suggests that a printer's manual had been supplied along with the press, for there is no evidence that either Jago or Simpson had any prior printing experience.

Maguire, Simpson and Jago reached the *Plover* on 1 July 1852. Preparing the ship and its crew for the winter at Point Barrow occupied the summer months. As soon as the cold weather set in, thoughts turned to winter occupations, as Simpson recorded in his journal on October 15:

Had some talk in the gun room tonight about getting up amusements for the winter. Nothing settled, but that "something is to be done" in the way of theatricals and the "press ought not to be idle."¹⁹

Such pursuits were almost compulsory on nineteenth-century Arctic voyages, following Parry's recommendation that dramatics, seamen's schools, and shipboard publications would help to combat the boredom, cold, and darkness of long winter nights. The presses played a prominent role in these activities on the Franklin search

¹⁶ Letter to John Barrow from John Simpson, dated Port Clarence, 20 August 1852. British Library: Barrow bequest (MS. Add. 35,308, f. 146-147).

¹⁷ **Bold** numbers within parentheses refer to items in the appended bibliographical catalogue. A thorough search was conducted to locate *Plover* imprints. The majority of surviving copies are held at the British Library, the Royal Geographical Society, the Public Record Office, and at Duke University, North Carolina. The National Maritime Museum in Greenwich has no *Plover* imprints in its collection, and none have yet been located in the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge.

¹⁸ The pronounced type bite might also be due to a heavily-packed tympan.

¹⁹ Journal of John Simpson, entry for 15 October 1852. Duke University: John Simpson papers, Box 5. Hereafter cited as '*Simpson*.'

vessels, being used to produce playbills, songsheets, game lists, and announcements of all kinds.²⁰

The ship's library was set up on October 16. A week later, Jago unpacked the press and installed it in Maguire's cabin.²¹ The following day, the first Arctic imprint of the *Plover* press appeared: a broadside announcing the forthcoming "Winter amusements" (P2). A theatrical production and a newspaper were planned.

The British Library copy²² of the *Plover*'s first Arctic imprint, sent by John Simpson to Barrow, bears Simpson's note: "A proof copy of the first attempt at printing aboard the *Plover* by Mr. Jago." Despite very uneven inking and many black smudges, this was a good first attempt, compared to printing on other Arctic search ships. Both margins are well justified, the text is nicely centered on the page, and there are only two minor typographical errors. Jago used the royal arms as ornament, both a hairline and a 2-point rule, and all the sizes and varieties of type available to him.

The text type of the *Plover* press is a 12-point pica in a condensed modern face (axb = 80 x 2 : 4 mm).²³ The text type was accompanied

20 There is no evidence that any of Parry's ships carried a press. The participation of the press in the "winter amusements" began with the Franklin search expeditions.

21 Rochfort Maguire, *The journal of Rochfort Maguire, 1852-1854* (London: Hakluyt Society, 1988), entry for 22 October 1852. Hereafter cited as 'Maguire.'

22 British Library (1899.r.13)

23 Because the type face used on the *Plover* was manufactured by a number of firms at this time, it was not possible to identify the founder with any degree of certainty. And because point sizes are based on the dimensions of the type body which is difficult to discover unless one can measure 20 lines of type that appear to be set solid (something not possible with the *Plover* imprints for any except the text type), the type has been described on the basis of the face alone, following the method used by H.D.L. Vervliet in *Sixteenth century printing types of the Low Countries* (Amsterdam : M. Hertzberger, 1968), 17-19. In Vervliet's system, the first figure (called the "bare measurement") records the distance between ascenders and descenders in mm, multiplied by 20; the second figure, following the letter "x", records x-height; the third figure, following a colon, measures cap. height. The "bare measurement" of the *Plover*'s text type is 80 mm. Twenty lines of the *Plover*'s (apparently unleaded) text type measure 84 mm. Both measurements are consistent with the average size of the pica body — i.e. between 76 and 85 mm for 20 lines, as given in Vervliet, p. 16, and 84.36 mm (20 × 4.218 mm), as given in Lucien Alphonse Legros' *Typographical printing-surfaces* (London : Longmans, 1916), 70-71. The pages of *Plover* text type measured were p. [17], 20, and [57] of *The Weekly Guy*, issues no. v and xv (P22). I am grateful to James Mosley of the St. Bride Printing Library, London, for suggesting the use of Vervliet's method to describe the *Plover*'s type.

by two sets of matching display caps, one 5 mm in face height, the other 10 mm. The *Plover* was also supplied with two ornamental types (cf. Illustration 13): a 22-point shaded Tuscan design called “Small pica two-line Ornamented no. 1” in Caslon specimen books of the time period; and a 12-point sans-serif called “nonpareil two-line Doric no. 1” in the same Caslon specimens.²⁴ The face height of the *Plover*’s “Ornamented” measures 7 mm, while that of its “Doric” measures 4 mm.

Since both the Doric and the text type were 12-point, Jago was able to set the two in a single line (P2; P8 Illustration 3), but evidently the Doric was cut “full on the body” because its base line lies below that of the text type. In terms of point-size, the other display types did not harmonize well with one another or with the text type and so are never set in the same line. In a diary entry written just days after the first *Plover* imprint was struck off, John Simpson lamented not having “four times the number of types.”²⁵ Since that imprint had just 25 lines, it would appear that the sorts were not ample. The only ornament used on the *Plover* was the royal arms measuring 30 mm square, possibly manufactured by Stevenson, Blake.²⁶ Hairline rules and thicker, 2-point rules of various lengths were also used.

On October 25, a mere two days after the “notice of winter amusements” appeared, Simpson and Jago were hard at work printing an announcement for a “native dance” (P4, Illustration 4) to be held on board ship on the 28th.²⁷ Five such dances would be held during the *Plover*’s Arctic sojourn to demonstrate goodwill towards the Inuit and to induce them to carry the printed notices that Maguire intended to distribute throughout the year. On the 26th, Simpson

24 Both ornamental types are reproduced in Nicolette Gray’s *Nineteenth century ornamented typefaces* (Berkeley : University of California Press, 1976), figs. 40 and 122. According to Gray, both types were first manufactured by Caslon (“Ornamented no. 1” in 1830; “Doric no. 1” in 1842), and Caslon specimens indicate that both were available in the 1850s in the point-sizes used on the *Plover*.

25 “The notice after several corrections was struck off in a very creditable form & our great regret now is that we have not four times the number of types.” *Simpson*, 25 October 1852.

26 Stevenson, Blake type specimen books of the 1850s show exactly this ornament in a range of sizes, but none in the size actually used on the *Plover*. Cf. Stevenson, Blake. *Specimen of printing types, ornaments, rules, &c* (Sheffield : Stevenson, Blake, [ca. 1856], ornament no. 295 measuring 32 mm square.

27 *Simpson*, 25 October 1852.

THEATRE ROYAL,
POINT BARROW.

On **FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 24, 1852.**

Will be performed the Laughable Farce of the

QUEER SUBJECT.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Dr. Bingo,	Mr. Drustall.
Charles,	„ Cork.
Bill Maltock,	„ Matthews.
Ned Snatch,	„ Clendon.
Sammy Spectro,	„ Saunders.
Tom Darking,	„ Bright.
Countrymen,	„ Wright & Martin.
Julia,	„ Daw.

The Entertainment to conclude with a variety of
Nautical & Sentimental songs.

Doors open at half past six, Performance to commence at seven precisely.

3. Playbill printed on board the *Plover* (P8) in December 1852.
Actual size: 220 × 158 mm. Courtesy of the Rare Book, Manuscript,
and Special Collections Library, Duke University, Durham, N.C.

GREAT NOVELTY!!

IT IS INTENDED TO OPEN THIS SEASON
with a

NATIVE DANCE.

which will take place on board
Her Majesty's Ship *Plover*, at *Plover Barrow*, on
THURSDAY NEXT.
the 28th. Instant,
between the hours of 4 & 8 o'clock p.m.

As the object of this Ball to our neighbours of Noo-wook is to restore that amicable feeling with which they have until lately regarded us, we ought on this occasion to use every means to conciliate their good will, and, avoiding any just cause of offence, to inspire them with confidence in our friendly disposition towards them; so that, having no injuries to avenge, they may be induced to treat with kindness any of our countrymen belonging to Sir John Franklin's party, or to the Ships in search of him, who may fall into their hands in a defenceless state.

Barrow, Amateur Printing-Office

4. Broadside announcement printed on board the *Plover* (P4) in October 1852. Actual size: 237 × 183 mm. Courtesy of the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library, Duke University, Durham, N.C.

and Jago were engaged in printing a prospectus (P₃) for their newspaper, *The Weekly Guy*.²⁸ The prospectus appeared on the 27th. Evidently the entire process of printing a short broadside, from composition to final product, could be completed within a day.²⁹ It is more difficult to conjecture how many copies of each broadside were printed. But since the ship's complement numbered only 41 men,³⁰ it is unlikely that more than 50 copies of each imprint were produced.

Many different kinds of paper were used on the *Plover*, all machine made: a very pale blue wove marked 'C ANSELL | 1850' in the lower right-hand corner; a bluish-grey wove; blue laid (at least one variety of which was marked 'HODGKINSON & C^o', which may or may not be simply the countermark of the variety of blue laid exhibiting a Britannia mark); grey laid with a Britannia mark (countermark, if any, unknown); numerous varieties of white laid (a greyish-white manufactured by J. Rump with a fleur-de-lis mark, a bluish-white by T.H. Saunders with a vryheyt mark, one countermarked '1846' (watermark, if any, unknown), one marked 'HODGKINSON & C^o', and any number of others difficult to identify with certainty because the surviving imprints do not bear watermarks or countermarks). In addition, sheets of stationery were used: an unmarked creamy white laid and an unmarked pale blue wove with gilt edges, both machine made. Even a machine-made white wove with water-line ruling³¹ was put to use in the printing office. Jago and Simpson did not restrict themselves to one type of paper for any particular imprint, but they tended to use white and laid papers for broadsides, blue and wove papers for notices to be distributed to the Inuit.

28 *Maguire*, 26 October 1852. Information supplied by the National Library of Ireland which holds *Maguire's* manuscript diary. This portion of the entry for 26 October 1852 had not been transcribed by Bockstoce in his edition of *Maguire's* journal.

29 Similarly *Simpson*, 8 December 1852: "Printed a bill for a masquerade to take place on Saturday [11 December 1852]."

30 *Maguire*, 19 August 1852.

31 E.J. Labarre calls this type of paper "linear paper": "Linear papers are those, mostly thin blanks, with watermarked lines, also called 'water-lines,' at given distances to guide handwriting, which is also termed 'Water-line Ruling' (DSM)." Cf. E.J. Labarre, *Dictionary and encyclopedia of paper and paper making*, 2nd ed., rev. and enl. (Amsterdam : Swets & Zeitlinger, 1952), 146. Hereafter cited as *Labarre*.

The exclusive use of fine printing and writing paper instead of silk or thin coloured machine wove³² is atypical of printing on the Franklin search ships. Only on William Penny's expedition were broadsides printed on quality stock (a blue laid), and even then just three very small playbills were produced using this paper. On Richard Collinson's *Enterprise*, half of a single copy of an almanac was printed on white laid. During Edward Belcher's expedition, only four broadsides out of thirty examined were executed on fine paper; on the voyage led by Horatio Austin, five copies out of fifty-six; on Henry Kellett's ship, five copies out of thirty-eight. Perhaps because the *Plover* was a supply ship, it could afford to dip into its large, varied stock. Or the silk and coloured paper may simply have been off limits, reserved for the use of the search vessels in producing balloon messages.

Before the end of October 1852, the press would take on its first official business: the printing of a notice for distribution to the Inuit, such as Maguire had proposed to the Admiralty in December 1851. On October 29, the press turned out a number of these small notices detailing the *Plover*'s position (P5, Illustration 5).³³

The six copies of this notice that have been examined measure between 99 and 117 mm in height and between 161 and 184 mm in width. On at least one other search vessel, when printing small notices such as these, the text of the notice was typeset two or more times so that a number of copies could be printed on a single piece of paper and cut apart afterwards.³⁴ This does not seem to have been the case on the *Plover*. The six copies of this notice, for example, differ from one another only in size and in the variety of paper on which they are printed. A professional compositor could produce two almost identical typesettings of a text and print two sets of notices that would be indistinguishable to the naked eye, but such consistency and accuracy in composition would be very difficult for an amateur printer to achieve. It is even less likely that Jago would have set the first three lines of the notice off centre to precisely the same degree in both settings.

32 This "thin coloured machine wove" used on the search ships resembles newsprint but is not at all brittle. One hundred and fifty years after it passed through the press, it is still flexible, strong, and brightly coloured.

33 *Maguire*, 29 October 1852.

34 Balloon messages printed on the Austin expedition, 1850-52 are of this type. Cf. Public Record Office ADM 7/190, in which are bound two sheets of balloon papers, four messages per sheet, uncut.

5. Small notice printed on board the *Plover* (P5) in October 1852. Actual size: 117 × 184 mm. Courtesy of the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library, Duke University, Durham, N.C.

Nevertheless, compared with the printing on other Arctic search ships, Jago's typesetting is extremely accurate. From time to time he makes errors common to any non-professional compositor: the substitution of a zero for an upper case "O";³⁵ the use of lower case "n" for "u", and vice versa;³⁶ a similar confusion among "p", "d", "b" and "q".³⁷ But aside from Henry Hester, the printer on the *Enterprise*, and Henry Briant of the *Assistance*, Jago is the only pressman who even attempted to justify his text, and the quality of the impressions that he achieved are surpassed only by Briant, who almost certainly had some formal training before joining Belcher's expedition. On the other hand, *Plover* imprints lack the exuberant playfulness and experimentation seen on Austin's voyage and on Kellett's *Resolute*, with their home-made wooden type and ornaments, their printing on chamois, linen, and silk, their courageous forays into two-colour printing. Nor did *Plover* imprints ever attain the elegant, professional layout achieved on board Belcher's *Assistance*. Sample imprints from these voyages, placed next to those of the *Plover*, show such differences more effectively than words (Illustrations 6-9).³⁸

The first day of November saw Jago and Simpson back at the press, printing a second prospectus (P6) for their forthcoming newspaper, *The Weekly Guy*.³⁹ That evening, the text of the prospectus was read aloud to the crew by the gunner's mate, John Matthews, who was to read every issue of the *Guy* aloud as it appeared. Matthews recorded in his journal:

I have the numbers sent to me each Saturday night, and after supper I act the part of Bellman and Newsman, going round the

35 For example, the imprint in P4 (Illustration 4): "Barrow, Amateur Printing-Office".

36 For example, "uutil" in line 13 of P4 (Illustration 4), and "snbject", "uot", and "uundertaking" in P2.

37 For example, the advertisement that appeared in the first issue of *The Weekly Guy* (P22) seeking a printer's apprentice of "goop character".

38 Size is another feature that distinguishes the imprints of each voyage. Playbills from Penny's ship and from Collinson's *Enterprise* are very small (typically 200 × 130 mm on Penny's ship, 176 × 123 mm on Collinson's). *Plover* imprints fall in the middle range (averaging 220 × 170 mm). Broadside from the Austin expedition are generally long and thin (averaging 435 × 194 mm). Belcher's *Assistance* and Kellett's *Resolute* produced the largest playbills. The *Resolute's* tend to be as long as those printed on the Austin expedition, but wider (averaging 430 × 255 mm), the printer on the *Assistance* favoured a more square shape (averaging 387 × 254 mm).

39 *Simpson*, 1 November 1852.

THEATRE ROYAL VICTORIA.
Port Clarence.

The Nobility and Gentry at this Port are respectfully informed that the above Theatre will be Opened this evening
September.12th 1854.

The Performance will commence with the new Comedy of
the

BIRTH DAY.

The following are the principal characters.

Capt Bertram.	Mr. Perkins.
Mr. Bernham.	Mr. Bulkley.
Henry Bertram.	Mr. Cooper.
Jack Junk.	Mr. Wiggins.
Lawyer Circuit.	Mr. Dargson.
Mrs. Moral.	Mr. Wilson.
Emma.	Mr. Littlefield.

To conclude with Gay's Celebrated,
BEGGARS OPERA.

Capt. Macheath.	Mr. Bulkley.
Peachum.	Mr. Wiggins.
Lockit.	Mr. Cooper.
Mat O'the mint.	Mr. Perkins.
Ben Budge.	Mr. Woodhead.
Mrs. Peachum.	Mr. Wilson.
Polly Peachum.	Mr. Littlefield.
Lacey Lockit.	Mr. Simpkins.

Doors open at half past Six Performance to commence at
Seven o'clock Precisely. Private Boxes & Stalls may be had
as usual.

Vocal Director Mr. Perkins. Leader of the Band Mr. E.J.
Davidson.

Stage Manager Mr. V. Bulkley. Virat Regia.

Printed at the Victoria Press Port Clarence.

6. Playbill printed on board Edward Collinson's *Enterprise* in September 1854.
Actual size: 251 x 129 mm. Courtesy of the Rare Book, Manuscript,
and Special Collections Library, Duke University, Durham, N.C.

7. Playbill printed in red and black on board Horatio Austin's *Resolute* in January 1851. The rules, Prince of Wales feathers ornament, and the woodblocks declaring the name of the ship, theatre, and play titles, were carved on board by the crew. Actual size: 445 × 140 mm. Courtesy of the Rare Book Division, National Library of Canada/Division des livres rares, Bibliothèque nationale du Canada.

V. R.

SOIREEE FANTASTIQUEE.
MELVILLE ISLAND.

Under the distinguished Patronage of
Captain H. KELLETT, C. B., and Commander F. L. Mc CLINTOCK.

—♦♦♦—

The first of these Soirées will be held on board
H. M. S. V. INTREPID,
on Thursday, the 9th. December, 1852.

The amusements of the evening, will commence with a
Glee, by Messrs. Hood, S. Dean, and Ganniciff.

THE WIZARD OF THE FAR NORTH,
having for the first time visited this country, will then introduce his
wonderful performances in

LEGERDEMAIN!

and being materially assisted by that talented NECROMANCER, Lieut. Pim,
can promise his patrons, a most extraordinary treat!!

—♦♦♦—

After which, a few COMIC SONGS, by
Messrs. Smith, Warre, and Morgan.

To conclude with a short, Comic After-Piece; entitled
PAT AND THE MAGISTRATE;
OR, "ALL A MISTAKE".
Sustained by Messrs. Smith, and Warre.

—♦♦♦—

Doors open at six o'clock: to commence at half past six, precisely.
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

—♦♦♦—
Melville Island Press.

9. Broadside printed on board Henry Kellett's *Resolute* in December 1852. The rose ornament is sometimes found inked in red. The two fine decorative rules were carved on board, as were the letters 'V.' and 'R.' and the word 'LEGERDEMAIN!'. Actual size: 360 × 224 mm. Courtesy of the National Archives of Canada/Archives nationales du Canada.

deck and ringing my bell, at the same time crying out "O Yea! O Yea! O Yea!" Silence is then kept by all hands and I commence and read the contents of *The Weekly Guy* and I can assure you we find a fund of amusement from the different remarks, etc., passed upon its contents.⁴⁰

At the age of 43, Matthews was the oldest crewman aboard the *Plover*, and as such he seems to have taken on a number of honorary roles in the special events on board ship. He led the Guy Fawkes celebrations and chaired the Christmas dinner on the lower deck as well.

The idea of *The Weekly Guy* (P22, Illustration 10), the only *printed* shipboard newspaper of the Franklin search expeditions and by far the most extensive item printed on any of the ships, was conceived by John Barrow, Jr.⁴¹ Before Maguire left England, Barrow had even supplied engravings by Cruikshank to accompany the projected newspaper.⁴² It was a very modest publication in both size and content. Each bi-monthly number consisted of a single quarter-sheet, folded once to form four pages, on which appeared the editor's comments on shipboard activities, along with a few poems, announcements, jokes, and riddles.

Simpson's journal entries concerning the production of the *Guy* reveal the distribution of work in the printing office: "Getting on with no. one of *Guy*, Jago being chief printer and compositor," wrote Simpson on November 1. On October 27, Simpson had recorded "Employed about printing a prospectus for *The Weekly Guy* in which Jago takes the heavy work," and on October 29, "Leaving Jago to print a notice of the *Plover* being at Point Barrow this winter for distribution among the natives." By November 4, Simpson remarked: "This printing business is very satisfactory in its results, but it is exceeding tedious and runs away with time." Simpson evidently found himself better suited to the role of editor, while Jago was adept as compositor and pressman.

40 Journal of John Matthews, entry for November 1852. Royal Geographical Society. Hereafter cited as '*Matthews*.'

41 *Maguire*, 15 October 1852. The Franklin search voyages produced many *manuscript* newspapers. Some of the better-known titles are: *The Illustrated Arctic News*, *The Aurora Borealis*, *Minavilins*, and *The Gleaner* (Austin expedition, 1850-1852), *The Queen's Illuminated Magazine* (Belcher expedition, 1852-1855), *The Crow's Nest* and *The Ice Blink* (First Grinnell expedition, 1850-1851).

42 *Simpson*, 22 October 1852.

THE WEEKLY GUY.

No. vi.] Friday, Dec. 10. 1852. [Gratis.

It must, we think, be as much a source of gratification to our readers, as a matter of honest pride to ourselves, to observe the fast extending importance of this periodical. Even already, it would appear to have attained an eminence in the literary circles of this country totally unsurpassed; and that it is the very first emanation from the press, our bitterest enemy must be ready to concede to us. Since, however, high office, no matter of what kind, ever has, does, and will continue to excite the spleen of the envious and disappointed, and to call forth the vile censure and criticisms of the censorious and ignorant; and we were never vain enough to imagine that we should form the first exception to this well established rule, it can scarcely be considered worth a regret, that the *Weekly Guy* is not without its opponents.

It is to warn our friends of such persons, that we write this article, and to place them on their guard against their artifices. Our enemies, knowing that much of our success depended upon the implicit faith reposed in us by our correspondents, a system of spying has been resorted to by them, which if not discovered so

10. The first page of issue no. vi of *The Weekly Guy* (P22).
Actual size: 161 × 205 mm. Courtesy of the Rare Book, Manuscript,
and Special Collections Library, Duke University, Durham, N.C.

Simpson's great interest in the native inhabitants and their language also prompted him to experiment with type cutting for *The Weekly Guy*. In his journal entry for 15 November 1852, Simpson records that he is "making 'hyphens' of boxwood for printing in syllables the Eskimaux burden of a new song for the *Guy*." Evidently Simpson found it necessary to supplement the supply of metal hyphens with some of his own making. And, indeed, the page in question boasts no less than twenty hyphens, most of which are used to print the chorus of the Inuktitut song.⁴³

From Simpson's diary entries between 1 November and 4 December 1852, it appears that each issue of the *Guy* was printed over the course of four or five days. When printing the newspaper, Jago does not seem to have kept even the masthead type standing between issues, and he certainly reset his colophon, which appears variously as 'Printed at the Barrow AmaterOffice [sic]', 'Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office,' 'Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office. [sic, using a zero in place of upper case letter "O"]' and 'Barrow Amateur Printing Office.' The width of the typepage holds steady throughout the issues at 76 mm, but the length varies substantially — from 96 to 131 mm.

The gutter width between typepages also varies significantly — not only between issues (by as much as 28 mm), or even between the inner and outer forme of a single issue (by as much as 5 mm), but also *within* a forme between the foot and the head of the gutter margin (2-4.5 mm).⁴⁴ As a result, the recto/verso register is inaccurate in most issues and facing typepages do not align well either, the margin between them being either wider or narrower at the top than at the bottom (Illustration 11). This suggests that the *Plover* press may not have been supplied with a folio chase whose crossbar would

43 The song is found on p. 11 of issue no. iii. I am grateful to Prof. Patricia Fleming, Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto, for suggesting this explanation rather than the less likely possibility that Simpson was attempting to carve Inuktitut syllabics from boxwood.

44 Gutter width of seven issues of the *Guy* held in the John Simpson papers at Duke University, measured in millimetres at the top/middle/bottom of inner(I) and outer(O) formes: Issue no. iii (I 30/30/30; O 30/30/30); Issue no. v (I 23/24/25; O 27/26/25); Issue no. vi (I 25/25.5/25; O 27.5/27.5/29); Issue no. vii (I 43.5/44/48; O 43.5/44/44); Issue no. ix (I text at inner margin failed to print, unable to measure; O 24/24.5/25); Issue no. xi (I 20/20/21; O 25/24.5/25); Issue no. xv (I 41/42/42.5; O 42/42/43). The reference to inner and outer forms is used here for convenience only, since the point of the measurements is to call into question the use of such formes.

II. Two facing pages from the “inner forme” of an issue of *The Weekly Guy* (P22), with slightly tapering gutter margin, misaligned headlines, and textblocks of different lengths. This schematic representation is based on p. 26 and 27 of issue no. vii.

have provided a more stable gutter margin, and that Jago was forced to use furniture alone to separate his typepages. Certainly a folio chase with a crossbar would not have been needed for the official business of printing notices. Perhaps the poor register is also due partly to a lack of appropriate equipment, for there are no point-holes in the gutter margin. Obviously Jago did not use this traditional method for achieving register.

However, the misalignment of typepages in *The Weekly Guy* suggests another possibility besides a simple lack of points and a folio chase: that the newspaper was not printed by formes at all, but one page at a time. The Barrow Amateur Office definitely lacked type, and Jago might well have found it difficult to follow complicated casting-off calculations that would have allowed him to print the inner forme before setting the outer forme. Therefore he might have experimented with printing a single page at a time, either by choice or out of necessity. And if this were the case, the conventional alignments between facing pages that are taken for granted in professional printing and are most easily achieved on the bed of the press before printing begins, would have been very difficult for Jago to arrange if he were printing the facing pages in two separate operations. Tests for first forme impression would clarify the matter,⁴⁵ but because the make-ready is not professional and the type-bite is quite uneven in most issues, the results of these tests are inconclusive.⁴⁶

Instead, the *headlines* of the *Guy* may furnish useful evidence of page-by-page printing. The amount of space between the running title ('THE WEEKLY GUY.') and the rule below it varies between issues, but remains precisely the same within each issue.⁴⁷ A simple desire for uniformity in appearance is unlikely to explain this regularity, because the typepage of the second page of each issue

45 If Jago had printed by formes, no matter whether he had set only the inner forme or all four pages before beginning to print, either p. 1 and 4 or p. 2 and 3 would exhibit the signs of first forme impression. But if Jago had printed one page at a time, as it was set, p. 1 and 3 would exhibit these signs.

46 If multiple copies of the same issue could be found in order to compare the width of the gutter margins and the alignment of one typepage with that facing it, these measurements would also provide useful evidence. But the copy at the Royal Geographical Society is so tightly bound and cropped that it was impossible to obtain reliable measurements of this kind.

47 3mm between the headline and the rule below it (issue no. iii), 2.75mm (issue no. v), 1.75mm (issue no. vi), 2.5 mm (issue no. vii), 2.75mm (issue no. ix), 2.5mm (issue no. xi), 2.75mm (issue no. xv).

seldom equals in length that of its facing third page, and the headline of one is often set considerably further down the page than the headline of its opposite (Illustration II).⁴⁸ The stubborn consistency in the typesetting of the headline — apparently so much at odds with the different typepage lengths, the lack of alignment in the headlines of facing pages, the wavering gutter margins and the inaccurate register — could indicate that the very same headline (type, rule, quads and all) was used for pages [2-4] of each issue, and that the issues were therefore printed page by page.

Page-by-page printing, then, though far from proved, would explain both the features of the *Guy* that are oddly irregular (the slightly tapering gutter margins and the misalignment of running titles on facing pages) as well as the feature that is oddly regular (the identical typesettings of the headlines). At the same time, page-by-page printing would help to explain the irregularities that could otherwise have resulted from simple carelessness, inexperience, or lack of appropriate equipment (the varying page lengths and poor register).

Simpson's journal entry for November 5 states: "With great perseverance on the part of Jago the first number of the *Guy* came out at six o'clock." Printing had begun on November 1.⁴⁹ Understandably, the first issue contained a "help wanted" ad for the Printing Office:

Wanted immediately! For this office a Printer's Devil. He will be required to be of most industrious habits, and goop [sic] character. No fee expected, nor wages given.

The advertisement was successful: Simpson's journal entry for 12 November 1852 reads: "Printing — a man called Daw at work." This suggests that Daw helped with the second issue of the *Guy*, which appeared on 13 November 1852. At 21 years of age, Ordinary Seaman Walter Daw was one of the youngest men on the *Plover*, yet from the time he joined the crew in July 1852 until he was discharged a year later, he was continually on the sick list for venereal disease

48 By as much as 10mm for facing pages 34 and 35 of issue no. ix, and 6mm for facing pages 10 and 11 of issue no. iii.

49 *Maguire*, 1 November 1852: "Our Gentlemen connected with the press have commenced their labours, preparing the first number of *The Weekly Guy* for publication on its auspicious day the 5th."

and scurvy.⁵⁰ Simpson's medical notes state that Daw "seems a good deal emaciated but is naturally very thin and delicate."⁵¹ Perhaps Daw's unfitness for heavy work made him a candidate for the Printing Office.

Despite Daw's help, the *Guy* invariably appeared late. It also received a fair amount of criticism. Simpson complains that the fourth issue was "hardly appreciated" and that the fifth was "a subject of great criticism and warm controversy! 'Much ado about nothing.'"⁵² The publication was suspended on 4 February 1853 after its fourteenth number. In a letter to Barrow, Simpson explained the situation:

Jago is the "pie man" with the "composing stick" and has shared with me the labours and responsibilities of editorship. We of course in our own way incurred many penalties but on the whole as public censors we were let off handsomely. We must make an attempt to bring out a second series.⁵³

Evidently Simpson had not the heart for it. Only one more issue appeared, on 4 November 1853, to commemorate the newspaper's namesake. The previous August, Walter Daw had been invalided to a visiting ship, the *Amphitrite*, so 20-year-old midshipman Henry Grey took his place in the printing office to help with the final issue.⁵⁴ Maguire spoke more frankly of the paper's demise in a letter to Barrow:

Our own newspaper was not published the second year, one number only excepted ... Our local contributors ... had begun to fall off in their contributions to the 'Editor's Box' and, from the

50 Most of the *Plover's* crew suffered from scurvy in 1852/53, and many also suffered venereal complaints. Based on documents in the Public Record Office (ADM 101/113), John Bockstoce, editor of Rochfort Maguire's journal, states that John Simpson listed thirteen cases of gonorrhea aboard the *Plover* in the winter of 1852/53 (Cf. *Maguire*, I 130, n. 3). Considerable contact between the crew of the *Plover* and the native women contributed to the spread of the disease (*Maguire*, 6 December 1852). Simpson's medical records indicate that, by 8 May 1853, John Matthews was also diagnosed with gonorrhea. On 1 December 1854, Henry Grey, who was to take Walter Daw's place in the printing office, was similarly diagnosed.

51 John Simpson's sick list, entry for 5 February 1853. Duke University: John Simpson papers, Box 1.

52 *Simpson*, 4 and 7 December 1852.

53 Letter to John Barrow from John Simpson dated Port Clarence, 21 August 1853. British Library: Barrow bequest (MS. Add. 35,308, f.150).

54 *Maguire*, 3 November 1853.

limited number of types, the time taken for printing was almost more than could be spared, even by people who had a great deal of it on their hands.⁵⁵

This comment about “people” who cannot spare time to print despite having “a great deal of it on their hands” may refer to Edwin Jago. In his journal, Simpson complains on three occasions about being forced to work alone at the press:

Leaving Jago to print a notice of the *Plover* being at Point Barrow this winter for distribution among the natives. Where is he??? !!!⁵⁶

Working up back time with the *Guy*, Jago being otherwise engaged.⁵⁷

The *Guy* not got up in time owing to Jago being busy and the “Devil” sleeps.⁵⁸

It would be very instructive to examine Jago’s journal on this topic!⁵⁹

Not surprisingly, the fifteen numbers of the *Guy* that were issued between 5 November 1852 and 4 November 1853 were printed on many different kinds of paper. In addition to a bluish-grey machine wove (used only for the third issue), three types of white machine laid appear — one manufactured by T.H. Saunders, one by J. Rump, and one by an unidentified maker marked simply ‘1846’. To obtain paper on which to print the *Guy*, full sheets were torn in half twice, resulting in four quarter sheets. Two pages were imposed on the recto of the quarter sheet, and two on the verso; then the quarter sheet was folded once to form four pages (Illustration 12). Thus (with the exception of the third issue) each number of the *Guy* bears two contiguous edges that are torn and two that are “sharp,”⁶⁰ with vertical chainlines and half of a water- or counter mark running along the torn upper or lower edge of each quarter sheet.

55 Letter to John Barrow from Rochfort Maguire, dated June 1854. British Library: Barrow bequest (MS. Add. 35,308, f.159). Naturally Jago would have felt the lack of type most keenly in producing the 4-page *Guy*.

56 *Simpson*, 29 October 1852.

57 *Simpson*, 10 January 1853.

58 *Simpson*, 25 January 1853.

59 Jago’s journal and other papers have not been located. They may not have survived.

60 When trimming their paper before or after printing, Jago and Simpson always tore the sheet neatly. In this article, the word “sharp” is used to describe the natural edge of the machine-made paper as it was packaged for use.

12. The chainline direction, water- and countermark orientation, and the pattern of sharp and torn edges found in Plover imprints. In this hypothetical example, a full sheet of machine-made laid paper (A), watermarked with the fleur-de-lis and countermarked 'J. RUMP', has been used to print a broadside (B), an issue of *The Weekly Guy* (W), and two small notices (N1 and N2).

One quarter sheet (U) remains unused.

Although the quarter-sheet nature of the *Guy* is fairly evident from watermark and chainline evidence, the John Simpson fonds at Duke University contains full sheets of both the Saunders and the Rump paper used on board the *Plover* to print many issues of the *Guy*, making it possible to ascertain precisely what proportion of the full sheet is represented by the quarter sheets.⁶¹

Each sheet of bluish-white laid machine-made Saunders paper measures 319/323 x 410/403 mm, making it a variety of foolscap.⁶² Each sheet bears the Saunders countermark centered on one half ('THSAUNDERS & Co | 1851', 45 x 189.5 mm) and a vryheyt watermark (117.5 x 72 mm) centered on the other half.⁶³ Chainlines measure between 25 and 27 mm apart. The sheets have no deckle whatever. The three issues of the *Guy* printed on Saunders paper measure 161 x 205 mm, 160 x 250 mm, and 160 x 235 mm respectively — in the first case an exact quarter sheet (which would measure 161 x 203 mm), and in other two cases, a little over a strict quarter sheet in width, but not in height.

The white machine laid manufactured by J. Rump is somewhat larger than the Saunders paper. Measuring 365 x 477 mm, it is almost post in size.⁶⁴ These sheets bear the Rump countermark centered on one half ('J. RUMP | 1837', 49 x 122 mm) and a fleur-de-lis watermark (181 x 73 mm) centered on the other half.⁶⁵ Spacing between chainlines varies between 26.5 and 28 mm. Like the Saunders paper, the edges of the Rump paper have no deckle. The two issues of the *Guy* printed on Rump paper measure 185 x 236 mm and 184 x 239 mm, almost precisely the size of a quarter sheet (182 x 238 mm).

The sheets of smooth, heavily-sized bluish-grey wove paper used to print the third issue of the *Guy* appear to have been much smaller than the white laid sheets, because the third issue was trimmed at

61 Duke University: John Simpson papers, Box 2 (1 sheet of Saunders paper, 1 sheet of Rump paper), Box 4 (2 sheets of Saunders paper), Box 5 (1 sheet of Saunders paper).

62 Labarre, 259. Labarre gives a size range for printing foolscap that lies between 13.25 x 16.5" and 13.5 x 17" (between 340 x 420 mm. and 343 x 433 mm.)

63 According to G. Thomas Tanselle's system of measuring water- and countermarks ('The bibliographical description of paper,' *Studies in bibliography*, 24 (1971), 46-47), the countermark of the Saunders sheet measures: 45 x 8[2]26[26]26[26]25[27]25.5[6]21 (the fact that the mark lies just 8mm from the left-hand margin of the sheet explains the small first figure in the measurement of width). The watermark of the Saunders paper measures: 117.5 x 2[23]26[22]4.

64 Labarre, 259, gives the size of post printing paper as 15 x 19" (381 x 482 mm.)

65 Countermark: 49 x 24[4]27[27.5]28[27.5]8]20. Watermark: 181 x 5[22]28.5[22]5.

the bottom margin only (185 × 229 mm). Unfortunately the Simpson fonds contains no full sheets of this variety of wove, but since the uncut dimension of the sheet was just 229 mm, the bluish-grey sheets would appear to have been quite small, and probably intended as writing paper. As a consequence, the third issue is not the same format as its fellows, and is probably a folio.

Like *The Weekly Guy*, most of the *Plover's* broadsides were also printed on quarter sheets of much the same size as the newspaper issues (typically between 203 × 161 mm and 238 × 182 mm), and, like the *Guy*, the broadsides exhibit two contiguous torn edges and two contiguous sharp edges. But the chainlines in the broadsides always run horizontally, as one would expect in a broadsheet format, rather than vertically, as in the *Guy*.⁶⁶ And therefore, in the broadsides, the half of the water- or countermark runs parallel to the left- or right-hand margin, rather than at the upper or lower margin (Illustration 12).

Such consistency and conventionality in amateur printing might suggest that Jago had conscientiously followed the directions in his printer's manual in this respect. However, the printers' manuals commonly available in the 1850s⁶⁷ give no guidance concerning chainline direction for particular formats, nor do they outline rules for laying the paper on the tympan. It seems that the conventional chainline directions that appear in *Plover* imprints were simply a natural by-product of the process of trimming the paper in preparation for printing and of using the correct arrangement on the bed of the press. If a full sheet of laid paper is cut down to a quarter

66 The only exception to this rule is the broadside prospectus printed for *The Weekly Guy*, which has vertical chainlines. However, because the only surviving copy of the prospectus is bound up with issues of the *Guy*, all printed on uniform paper and previously owned by John Barrow, Jr., it is possible that this "set" was especially printed for Barrow as a keepsake, care being taken to ensure that the chainlines for the prospectus did not run counter to those for the issues of the news sheet. Maguire noted in his journal entry for 22 October 1852 that "a few copies [of the *Guy*] are to be kept for the kind originator, who has shown much kindness in everything connected with the *Plover*."

67 John Johnson, *Typographia, or, The printer's instructor* (London, 1824); Thomas Curson Hansard, *Typographia* (London, 1825); Charles Henry Timperley, *The printer's manual* (London, 1838); William Savage, *Dictionary of the art of printing* (London, 1841); Caleb Stower, *The printer's grammar* (London, 1808). Even Moxon gives no rules for chainline direction in particular formats. I am not suggesting that Jago had no printer's manual, only that he would have found no special instructions on this matter in the manuals.

of its size in such a way as to maintain the same proportions as the full sheet, that quarter sheet will display chainlines running parallel to its shorter dimension, just as the full sheet did. If the quarter sheet is laid on the tympan in the same way that a full sheet would normally be laid, all items printed in a broadside chase will have horizontal chainlines; those set out as in a folio chase will have vertical chainlines, as they do in *Plover* imprints.

Like the quarter-sheet broadsides, the notices always exhibit horizontal chainlines when printed on laid paper. Larger notices, such as those printed for 4 July 1853 (P14), are, in fact, the same size as the playbills, and naturally show the same placement of water- and countermarks, the same chainline direction, and the same pattern of sharp and torn edges. One copy of this notice on *wove* paper, however, though it conforms to the usual pattern, having two contiguous torn edges and two contiguous sharp edges and exhibiting its watermark 'C ANSELL | 1850' (48 × 166 mm) running parallel to the left-hand margin, departs from the norm in that the mark lies against a *sharp* rather than a torn edge.⁶⁸ Fortunately, the John Simpson fonds includes two full sheets of this variety of wove paper⁶⁹ measuring 317 × 400 mm, with its watermark in the lower right-hand corner, explaining its placement against a sharp edge in this particular notice. At 200 × 152 mm, this notice is almost exactly a quarter-sheet.

More often, however, the notices are only *half* the size of the broadsides, and presumably represent only an eighth of a sheet (Illustration 12). Sometimes it is possible to verify this assumption whenever a notice is printed on Saunders or Rump paper, whose full proportions are known. Naturally such full sheets, if divided conventionally into eighths either before or after printing, would result in four pieces with three torn edges and only one sharp edge, in addition to four pieces with two contiguous sharp edges and two contiguous torn edges. Surviving notices show both these patterns in equal proportions, as expected.

68 The *Plover*'s quarter-sheet broadsides often show a water- or counter-mark running along the left- or right-hand margin, but since both types of mark are typically placed in the *centre* of the whole sheet, the margin along which they run in the quarter-sheet is always torn. The wove "Ansell" sheets, however, have their mark in one *corner*, explaining why the quarter-sheet notice printed on that variety of paper shows a mark running parallel to a sharp margin rather than a torn one.

69 Duke University: John Simpson papers, Box 5.

Between issues of the *Guy*, other small jobs kept the Barrow Amateur Office busy throughout 1852 and 1853. On December 8, an announcement of a “Bal masque” (P7, Illustration 13) to be held December 11 was printed.⁷⁰ A playbill followed for the Christmas Eve performance of a farce called *The Queer Subject* (P8, Illustration 3). The new year saw a notice for a “Fancy Dress Ball” (P9) to be given 5 February 1853.

Many other Franklin search vessels held masked balls, but no expedition arranged as many as the *Plover* did, nor did any other commander invite the native inhabitants of the Arctic to attend! Maguire saw these dances as a opportunity to improve relations with the Inuit. In fact, hardly a day passed without native visitors on the ship. On one occasion, when Maguire was entertaining the chief and three women in his cabin, the captain delighted all four by allowing them to decorate their faces with printer’s ink.⁷¹

The smallest *Plover* imprint was issued in honour of Valentines Day. On 13 February 1853, a tiny printed notice (P10) was posted on board requesting volunteers to act as “letter sorters and carriers.” Since no mail ship was expected, this caused much consternation. A sergeant in the Royal Marines named Thomas Johnson was appointed postmaster (much to his bewilderment), and a broadside announcing his new duties was affixed to his cabin door. On the 14th, the horn signifying the arrival of the post was blown, and two sacks of mail were delivered to Johnson’s quarters. As a surprise, Barrow had supplied Simpson with a valentine for every member of crew, and these were duly delivered on the 14th.⁷² The notice asking for volunteer valentine postmen was printed on a twelfth of a sheet of Saunders paper — the supply of which seems to have run dry at this point, because only small notices were printed on Saunders paper as of this date.

70 *Simpson*, 8 December 1852. Also *Maguire*, 11 December 1852: “After dinner the people were allowed to amuse themselves preparing their dresses for a maquerade [sic] to be held in the evening — of which our Amateur printing press gave ample notice in a well executed bill.”

71 *Simpson*, 5 January 1853.

72 The complete story of the Valentine surprise has been pieced together from various sources. *Simpson*, 14 February 1853. Letter to John Barrow from John Simpson dated 21 August 1853, British Library: Barrow bequest (MS. Add. 35,308, f. 150). Letters to John Barrow from Rochfort Maguire dated 21 August 1853 and June 1854, British Library: Barrow bequest (MS. Add. 35,308, f. 151 and 159).

GRAND ENTERTAINMENT!

On
Saturday evening, the 11th. Dec. 1852. will take place

A

BAL MASQUE.

on board

**HER MAJESTY'S SHIP, PLOVER,
WINTER QUATERS.**

This being the first of a series of entertainments of a most lively and brilliant character, by way of encouragement to sociality each gentleman appearing in costume will be permitted to introduce a native friend, over whom he will be expected to keep a watchful eye to prevent tigiik.

N.B. The Royal band will be in attendance.

Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office.

13. Broadside announcement printed on board the *Plover* in December 1852 (P7).
Actual size: 204 × 161 mm. Courtesy of the Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library, Duke University, Durham, N.C.

The *Plover's* "Theatre Royal" was re-opened a couple of weeks later, on 26 February 1853, for the performance of a farce called *The Original* (P11). Fewer plays were performed on the *Plover* than on other search vessels. Perhaps there were not enough talented or interested crewmembers. But John Matthews, the gunner's mate who so enjoyed reading *The Weekly Guy* aloud to his shipmates, participated enthusiastically in the *Plover's* theatricals:

We are now busily employed getting up another piece for our theatre. It is called "The Original." We are assisted by two of our officers. One sustains the part of Col. Detonator, the other Pack Nonpareil. The character I am to sustain myself is to be called Sir Jacob Lukewarm, and I am now busily employed making my dress. It is knee breeches, shoes with buckles, white wig and morning gown. Our piece, I am very happy to say, it went off beyond my expectations, and that we received unbounded applause from our audience.⁷³

Here, the officers and ratings collaborated on the play. On vessels with larger crews, the officers and the men of the "lower deck" generally worked on separate plays. As on the other search ships, however, when spring drew near all hands were occupied preparing for the sledge journeys and making sure that the vessel was sufficiently seaworthy to break out of the ice. Printing was suspended for all but official business.

The first such official business for 1853 may have been a balloon message (P12). According to Maguire's journal, a balloon "of Mr. Shephard's construction" was sent up from the *Plover* on 12 April 1853.⁷⁴ Messages would probably have been attached, but none has been located yet.

For Maguire's April 1853 sledging expedition, notices left over from the previous October were used (P13). Jago simply printed updated information on the verso, and when Maguire signed the rectos he dated them "April 1853," crossing out the printed date of October 29. The printing on the verso is very smudgy and shaky, in contrast to Jago's usual work, suggesting that he found it difficult to print on a small 1/8° slip of paper already trimmed to 100 x 156 mm. Except for this unusual circumstance where he was forced to print on eighth-sheets, Jago may well have used quarter sheets to produce

⁷³ *Matthews*, February 1853.

⁷⁴ *Maguire*, 12 April 1853.

his small yet well-printed 1/8° notices. And since the evidence of the typesetting examined above⁷⁵ suggests that Jago did not set the text of the notices into type twice in order to print two copies at a time on the quarter sheets, he may have simply printed one notice on the upper half of the quarter sheet, turned it and re-laid it on the tympan to print a second copy on the other half of the sheet, tearing the two notices apart afterwards.⁷⁶

For the July sledging trip, a new set of notices was printed (P14), and when the *Plover* left its winter harbour in August 1853, yet another series was run off (P15) to be given to the Inuit in a nearby settlement.

On August 10 the *Plover* crew was delighted to sight a British ship, the *Amphitrite*, bringing news of the forthcoming visit of the *Rattlesnake* with mail and fresh provisions. To celebrate, the *Amphitrite's* crew proposed a theatrical, even though such an event was extremely unusual in the summer. Simpson recorded in his journal entry for 12 August 1853:

Heard of a wish by the *Amphitrites* to give a theatrical entertainment and find on board a letter to the editor of *The Weekly Guy* from one Jonathan [indecipherable] requesting the services of our printing press which is supposed to refer to a request about to be made to the editor to print the play bills. A specimen of the bill for the *Queer Subject* was left on board to shew what could be done for him, but an answer to the appeal is left to the Printer's Devil.

The *Amphitrite* Theatre playbill (P16) is quite unlike any other item printed on the *Plover*. Jago may have supervised its production, but he appears to have given the *Amphitrite* crew free reign to set the type and work the press on their own. The playbill exhibits typesetting features that Jago did not use in any other imprint (e.g. large spaces between ornamental letters, a cast list in three columns, the liberal use of short dashes), the inking is very uneven and the make-ready was inexpert, allowing the type to bite very heavily at the head of the broadside. Most unusual of all, the playbill is twice the size of the

⁷⁵ See p. 21 above.

⁷⁶ The other possibility — that Jago tore away and discarded the excess blank paper after printing a single notice on each quarter sheet — seems less likely. Admittedly, these conjectures, based on the printing on a single copy of a notice, are highly speculative.

average *Plover* bill (327 x 202 mm rather than 220 x 160 mm), requiring a half rather than a quarter sheet. A heavily-sized, crisp blue machine-made laid paper was chosen and trimmed along the short side only. As a result, this playbill is the only *Plover* broadside exhibiting vertical chainlines.

Because it was the largest item printed on the *Plover*, the *Amphitrite* playbill helps to indicate the size of the press on board. When speaking of the press, Maguire always emphasized its smallness: "A small printing press formed a part of the liberal supply granted to us by their Lordships on leaving London"⁷⁷ and "As our printing arrangements are on a very small scale, the paper [i.e. *The Weekly Guy*] must be in proportion."⁷⁸ A folio foolscap press with a platen measuring 15 x 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ " (380 x 247 mm)⁷⁹ would have been large enough to produce all the *Plover*'s imprints. As for the make of press on board, the Albion and the Columbian were the two most popular small presses of the time. The Albion, being smaller, lighter, and simpler in construction than its Columbian equivalent, might well have been favoured for Arctic shipboard duty.⁸⁰

Guy Fawkes celebrations were especially important on the *Plover*. November 1853 saw a grand ball and firework display, announced by means of a broadside printed on a pale blue wove stationery with gilt edges (P17).⁸¹ A week later, Jago printed notices (P18) not

⁷⁷ Maguire, 15 October 1852.

⁷⁸ Maguire, 22 October 1852.

⁷⁹ *Specimen of printing types of the Caslon and Glasgow letter foundry, Chiswell Street, London* (London : H.W. Caslon, 1857).

⁸⁰ John Johnson, *Typographia, or, The printer's instructor* (London : Longman, 1824). Johnson writes: "We are persuaded that most practical printers of this country will allow, that the meed of praise is justly due to the Albion Press [rather than the Columbian], invented by Mr. R.W. Cope, as being entitled, though last, to a place in the front rank in the list of presses, and that in every point of view: First, they are much lighter in respect to weight of metal; Secondly, the pull is very easy; not withstanding which, it is equal in power to any of them ...; Thirdly, it is better adapted for expedition, because the bar is attached to the near cheek, and not the off one, as in the Columbian; Fourthly, there are so few parts belonging to it, and consequently the machinery is in itself so simple, that there is not the least chance of their being put out of order ..." A manufacturer's advertisement for the Albion states that his press occupied "in width of room two feet less than those now generally used, and in weight upwards of six cwt. lighter" (Cited in Reynolds Stone, 'The Albion press,' *Journal of the Printing Historical Society* 2 (1965), 69).

⁸¹ Simpson, 2 November 1853: "Printing a bill for Saturday [5 November 1853]."

intended for the search vessels at all, much less for Franklin, but for the *Plover's* own supply ship, the *Rattlesnake*.⁸²

The last broadside printed on the *Plover* announced a “Fancy dress ball” to be held 18 March 1854 (P19). Because Maguire and Simpson were both Irishmen, St. Patrick’s Day celebrations on the *Plover* rivaled Guy Fawkes Night and Christmas. The following July, the final two notices of the expedition were struck off (P20, P21). In his journal entry for 20 July 1854, Maguire states that

Mr. Jago completed printing at noon a number of printed notices detailing our proceedings & the positions of the buried provisions — which were given out amongst the Natives to be by them delivered to any parties coming here after our departure ... At 6.30 I paid my last visit to the shore to place boards with notices cut on them of the position of the provisions and also to paste some of the printed notices about the house.⁸³

Both of the notices from 1854 (P20, P21) along with the notice dated 4 July 1853 (P14) reached their intended recipient, Captain Richard Collinson of the *Enterprise*. Collinson records that in July 1854 he encountered a group of natives, and

In short time a printed paper [P14], dated H.M.S. Plover, July 4th, 1853, Point Barrow, was produced; and gave us the information that our consort [the *Investigator*] had not been heard of, and consequently she was most likely to the north of us, on the west coast of Baring Land ... I therefore determined to open communication with Captain Maguire as soon as the ice would admit a boat to proceed to the westward.⁸⁴

At the end of the month, Collinson received notices dated 1 July 1854 (P20), and when one of his officers visited Point Barrow, he discovered the notices that Maguire had left behind (P21), detailing their intended course as of 20 July 1854.⁸⁵ Armed with firm information on the *Plover's* current position, Collinson sailed confidently westward, encountering the *Plover* at the end of August 1854. In just a few weeks, the ice would begin to form again. Without

82 Simpson, 12 November 1853: “Jago engaged printing a notice to be sent down the Coast with some Point Hope people now at Nu-wuk.”

83 Maguire, 20 July 1854.

84 Edward Collinson, *Journal of H.M.S. Enterprise, on the expedition in search of Sir John Franklin's ships by Behring Strait, 1850-55* (London : S. Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, 1889), 315. Hereafter cited as ‘Collinson.’

85 Collinson, 322, 325.

the printed messages to facilitate communication between the ships (and without the goodwill of the Inuit acting as volunteer postmen) this meeting might not have taken place until the spring of '55, and both ships would have been forced to spend another long winter in the Arctic.⁸⁶

The moment the *Plover* sighted the *Enterprise*, it had successfully completed its mission. Both ships were free to sail home.

When John Simpson returned from the Arctic, he published two pamphlets based on his research there: *Observations on the western Esquimaux and the country they inhabit* (1855) and *Results of thermometrical observations made at the Plover's wintering place, Point Barrow* (1857). He continued to serve as a naval surgeon and received his M.D. degree in 1858, but his years of duty in the North may have weakened his health. He died on 29 August 1859 at the Haslar Royal Naval Hospital in Southampton. He was only 39.⁸⁷ Edwin Jago was finally promoted Paymaster in 1855. He served on well over a dozen ships after his duty on the *Plover*, retiring "at his own request" on 14 May 1880, aged 55 — 32 years to the day upon which he had joined his first ship, the *Herald*.⁸⁸ Promoted to the rank of captain when he left the *Plover*, Rochfort Maguire had embarked on a promising naval career when ill health overtook him. He died on 29 June 1867 at the Haslar Hospital, eleven days after his 52nd birthday.⁸⁹

86 Collinson was not the only captain to receive the printed messages addressed to him. Henry Trollope of the *Rattlesnake* found Maguire's messages of 12 November 1853 (P18). Cf. *Maguire*, 12 August 1854. Other copies were handed over to the Hudson Bay Company officers and forwarded to the Admiralty (P5). Cf. British Library: Barrow bequest (MS. Add. 35,308, f. 188). In a letter to John Barrow dated Camden Bay, 4 July 1854 (British Library: Barrow bequest, MS. Add. 35,308, f. 20), Collinson is quite explicit about the value of the *Plover's* printed messages: "It was only by the receipt of one of the Plover's notices printed for distribution among the Barter island natives which was produced by one of them on their arrival the day before yesterday that I now become acquainted he [Captain Robert McClure commanding the *Enterprise's* companion ship, the *Investigator*] did not pass out either in /51 or /52."

87 Duke University: John Simpson papers; Clements Markham, *The Arctic Navy list, 1773-1873* (Portsmouth: Royal Naval Museum, 1992). Simpson's article on Thermometrical observations was published in the *Reports and transactions of the British Association for the Advancement of Science*. His observations on the Esquimaux were printed in the sessional papers of the House of Commons (*Accounts and papers* 35 (1854-1855), no. 1898)

88 *History of the Poetical Assembly*; Public Record Office: ADM 196/11, p. 59.

89 *The Arctic Navy list, 1773-1873*; John Bockstoe's introduction to Rochfort Maguire's *The journal of Rochfort Maguire, 1852-1854* (London: Hakluyt Society, 1988).

As for the *Plover*, when she reached San Francisco harbour on her way home to England, the vessel was declared no longer seaworthy. On 22 November 1854, she was sold to a firm of ship-breakers for £1,395.⁹⁰ The fate of the press on board is not known.

⁹⁰ John Bockstocke's introduction to Rochfort Maguire's *The journal of Rochfort Maguire, 1852-1854* (London : Hakluyt Society, 1988), I 50.

Bibliographical catalogue of *Plover* imprints

Shipboard imprints from the Franklin search era have long lain buried in manuscript collections or have been hidden under general library headings such as "Printed ephemera," "Arctic pamphlets," and "Playbills." This bibliographical catalogue records and describes the imprints of one rescue ship, the *Plover*, in order to document an interesting aspect of printing history and to help uncover the everyday practices of a nineteenth-century shipboard printing office.

Because very few copies of *Plover* imprints survive, and because, in compiling this bibliography, no control copy was used to compare the complete text of every imprint in a way that would reveal even the minutest of variants, this list is a "bibliographical catalogue" rather than a "descriptive bibliography." Nevertheless, many standard principles of bibliographical description have been followed.

The imprints are arranged chronologically and numbered consecutively, each number being preceded by the letter "P".

The quasi-facsimile title page transcriptions depart from the conventions developed by Fredson Bowers¹ in only one way. Because just a single press with a limited number of types is involved, it has been possible to indicate different type sizes not only within the line, but also between lines²:

Text type (12-point pica)

DISPLAY CAPS (5 mm face)

DISPLAY CAPS (10 mm face)

Words and lines printed in the *Plover*'s two ornamental types are designated '[doric]' or '[ornamented]', in the conventional manner. Rules and ornaments have been measured in millimetres, height preceding width. Blank space left in the notices for a manuscript date or signature is indicated by '[]'.

1 Fredson Bowers, *Principles of bibliographical description* (Princeton, N.J. : Princeton Univ. Press, 1949)

2 A distinguishing modern precedent for this practice is found in David Van der Meulen's doctoral thesis (University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1981) entitled: *A descriptive bibliography of Alexander Pope's Dunciad, 1728-1751*. In his quasi-facsimile transcriptions of title pages, Van der Meulen gives the measurement of each typeface within square brackets at the end of every transcribed line.

Each quasi-facsimile transcription is followed by a line indicating the nature of the imprint (e.g. "Notice," "Playbill," "Prospectus"), the number of lines (since almost all the imprints are broadsides), and the dimension of the typepage in millimetres, height preceding width.

Because *Plover* imprints appear on a variety of papers, and sometimes exhibit a variety of formats as a consequence, it has not been possible to describe an "ideal copy" of any *Plover* imprint in terms of paper or format. Therefore both of these characteristics have been treated as copy-specific. For every copy, the location of watermarks and countermarks is given because this information helps to confirm format. For the same reason, the edges of each sheet of paper are described as torn or "sharp" ("sharp" describing the natural edge of the machine-made paper as it was packaged, ready for use). Dimensions are given in millimetres, height preceding width. Unfortunately, the British Library's *Plover* imprints were mounted on heavy paper, making it impossible to observe watermarks or to measure the distance between chainlines with any accuracy for these copies.

The "Notes" are extremely brief because most of this type of information has been incorporated into the body of the article. Locations are abbreviated: BL (British Library), NCD (Duke University, Durham, NC), PRO (Public Record Office), RGS (Royal Geographical Society, London).

P1 May 1852

[List of books printed in Honolulu in May 1852]

Note: The first imprint of the *Plover* press.

Copy located: None.

P2 23 October 1852

[royal arms 30 × 30 mm] | **NOTICE!** | THE ATTENTION
OF THE PUBLIC | IS INVITED TO | THE RAPID APPROACH
OF THE TIME [doric] | FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF
THE | WINTER AMUSEMENTS. [ornamented] | By the lovers of
the DRAMA, the highest hopes are entertained | that, whilst the
recent changes have deprived the community of several | Actors of
celebrity; it may be found that others of no less celebrity have | been
introduced: they therefore look forward with anxiety, for the first |
'Play Bill', that shall announce the opening of so popular a source of
| merriment. It may in some degree be the subject of regret, that it
has | not been possible to obtain a greater variety of new costumes,
articles | for decoration &c.; but this evil it is trusted will not exceed
the inge- | nuity and invention of the Manager; which office is now
open to all | candidates.* | [hairline rule 112 mm] | *Applicants for
this desirable situation, may learn Particulars | at this Establishment,
any day between the hours of 8 o'clock; | A.M., & P. M. | ¶ Wanted
also an experienced Band Master. | [2-point rule 33 mm] | BARROW
Amateur-Printing Office: ['BARROW' doric] | Saturday, October
23, 1852. *Stent* 'community', 'Office' with a zero in place of an upper-
case "O"

Announcement: 25 ll. (182 × 135 mm)

Format and Paper:

- 1° (248 × 198 mm), pale, heavily-sized, bluish-grey machine wove. All edges sharp except the right-hand margin, which is neatly torn. This is probably stationery trimmed along one side.

Note: The first Arctic imprint of the *Plover* press.

Copy examined: BL: 1899.r.13 (mounted)

P3 27 October 1852

[Recto] PROSPECTUS | of a | NEW WEEKLY PERIODICAL, |
the first number of which will be published | on the 5th. of November
next. | [rule 24 mm] | The object of this Print will be to afford | an
easy channel of publication to those who are | inclined to indite
their anecdotes, quaint sayings, or humurous conceits. No one who
is disposed | to contribute to its pages need be afraid that the |
snbject of his choice will be unsuitable, so that | it be treated with
originality; and even old and | seemingly worn out matter, if dressed
up in a | new style and made somewhat racy, will uot be | rejected. |
It is well known that there are several | individuals in the literary
circles of this place

[Verso] who are willing to become contributors to such | a Periodical,
and as the opportunity now offers, | they are earnestly requested to give
their mite in | support of the present uundertaking. | The Paper is to
be called | THE WEEKLY GUY, | (with illustrations,) | and in
the first number, appropriate to the day | on which it is to appear,
will be given an au- | thentic account of the career of the celebrated |
GUY FAUX. [doric] Stent ‘humurous’, ‘snbject’, ‘uot’, ‘uundertaking’

Prospectus: 17 ll. recto; 11 ll. verso

Format and Paper:

1/4°? (170 × 103 mm), white machine laid, unmarked, chainlines
vertical (27.5 mm). All edges considerably trimmed in connection
with binding.

Note:

In *Plover* imprints, vertical chainlines appear only in *The Weekly Guy*
and in a single (atypical) playbill (P16). Since this copy of the
prospectus and the copy of the *Guy* that accompanies it are both
printed on uniform paper and exhibit vertical chainlines, and since
both are bound together in a volume that John Barrow, Jr., donated
to the Royal Geographical Society, it is possible that this “set” was
printed especially for presentation to Barrow, with attention to
uniformity in chainline direction, and that other copies of this
broadside were printed on quarter sheets and would exhibit horizontal
chainlines, like the majority of *Plover* broadsides.

Copy examined: RGS: *Arctic pamphlets, 1854-55*, v. 3, item 7

P4 28 October 1852

[royal arms 30 x 30 mm] | GREAT NOVELTY!! | IT IS
INTENDED TO OPEN THIS SEASON [doric] | with a | NATIVE
DANCE, | which will take place on board | Her Majesty's Ship
Plover, at Point Barrow, on | THURSDAY NEXT, | the 28th.
Instant, | between the hours of 4 & 8 o'clock p.m. | [hairline rule 113
mm] | [8 lines] | [2-point rule 89 mm] | Barrow, Amateur Printing-
Office *Stet* 'Office' with a zero in place of an upper-case "O"

Announcement: 21 ll. (164 × 132 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: 1° (237 × 183 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (27 mm). All edges sharp. This is probably stationery, although quite rough. Very similar paper (if not the same paper) as P6, Copy 1.

Copy 2: ¼° (240 × 179 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (28 mm). Lower and right-hand margins torn, upper and left-hand margins sharp. Running from top to bottom along the right-hand margin (right reading) is the portion of a countermark: '1837'. This is a quarter-sheet of Rump paper.

Copy 3: ¼°? (238 × 182 mm), blue machine laid, chainlines horizontal. Top and left-hand margins torn, bottom and right-hand margins sharp.

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4 (Copy 1) and Box 5 (Copy 2); BL: 1899.r.13 (Copy 3, mounted)

P5 29 October 1852

ARCTIC EXPEDITION | in search of | SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.
 | [hairline rule 42 mm] | Her Majesty's Ship 'Plover' will be found
 wintering (1852-53) two | miles S.E. (true) of Point Barrow, called by
 the natives Noo-wook. | [4 lines] | [] Commander. | [hairline rule
 75 mm] | Printed on board H. M. S. Plover, on the 29th. of October
 1852.

Notice: 13 ll. (83 × 121 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: 1/8° (117 × 184 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (27/28 mm). All edges torn except left-hand margin, which is sharp. Running from top to bottom along right-hand margin (wrong-reading) is the portion of a countermark: 'UMP'. This is an eighth of a sheet of Rump paper.

Copy 2: 1/8°? (100 × 163 mm), heavily-sized, bright blue machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26/27 mm). All edges torn except left-hand margin, which is sharp. Portion of a countermark in lower right-hand corner: 'O'.

Copy 3: 1/8°? (101 × 162 mm), blue machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). All edges torn except right-hand margin, which is sharp. Running from bottom to top along left-hand margin (wrong-reading) is the portion of a countermark: 'ON & C°'. This is Hodgkinson & Co. paper.

Copy 4: 1/8°? (99 × 161 mm), blue machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). All edges torn except left-hand margin, which is sharp. Running from bottom to top along right-hand margin (right-reading) is the portion of a countermark: 'ON & C°'. This is Hodgkinson & Co. paper.

Copy 5: 1/8°? (109 × 169 mm), blue machine laid, chainlines horizontal. All edges sharp, and may have been trimmed by subsequent owner, John Barrow, Jr. Running from bottom to top along left-hand margin (right reading) is a portion of a countermark: '18'.

Copy 6: Format uncertain (100 × 162 mm), white machine wove with water-line ruling (lines 10 mm apart). Upper and right-hand margin sharp, lower and left-hand margin torn.

Notes:

These notices were distributed during Maguire's November 1852 sledge journey. They were also used on the journey made in April 1853, with additional text printed on the verso (P13). In October 1853, Maguire simply added in manuscript the date "October 1853", rather than having updates printed on the verso. Similarly, when the notices were used a fourth time in April 1854, Maguire added in manuscript the date "April 1854" along with notes on the ship's current location.

The British Library copy (Copy 4), signed by Maguire and dated in manuscript "April 1854," shows the following manuscript note in Maguire's hand: "The *Plover* is now passing her 2nd winter 1853-54 at Point Barrow, and is ordered to Point Clarence in 1854." Accompanying the notice is a letter from John Richardson to Barrow dated 7 May 1855 (British Library: Barrow bequest, Add. 35,308, f. 188), stating: "Though the withdrawal of the searching parties has deprived the accompanying documents of the interest that would have attached to it had we still been anxious for their welfare, I send it to you as it shows the utility of such documents. It was sent to me from Mckenzie's River in a letter received this evening. Mr. Hardisty the H.B. officer in charge of Fort Yukon, received several of Capt. Maguire's printed notices, from his Indians who obtained them from the Eskimos. They were all dated April 1854. In the spring they were sent to McKenzie's River, & this one was forwarded from Fort Simpson on the 28th of November last."

Copy 6 bears a notice similar in wording to Copy 4. It also bears the manuscript date "October 1853", which has been crossed out — presumably when the notes for April 1854 were added.

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4 (Copies 1 and 2), Box 5 (Copy 3); BL: Barrow bequest, Add. 35,308, f. 189 (Copy 4); RGS: *Arctic pamphlets, 1854-55*, v. 3, item 7 (Copy 5); Private collection (Copy 6)

P6 5 November 1852

FIFTH OF NOVEMBER. [doric] | 1852. | [2-point rule 50 mm] |
ANOTHER NOVELTY!!! | On that day will be brought
out the first Number of | "THE WEEKLY GUY" | (with
numerous illustrations); | published at the Amateur Printing-Office
| on board Her Majesty's Ship 'Plover', | WINTER QUARTERS,
POINT BARROW; [doric] | [where 'Country orders' are punctually
attended to] | and to be had of all Booksellers within fifty miles of
the | NORTH POLE [ornamented] | [2-point rule 48 mm] | [12 lines]

Prospectus: 26 ll. (174 × 144 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: 1° (235 × 183 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (27 mm). All edges sharp. This is probably stationery, although quite rough. Very similar paper (if not the same paper), as P4, Copy 1.

Copy 2: ¼° (238 × 183 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (27.5 mm). Lower and left-hand margins sharp, upper and right-hand margins torn. Running from bottom to top along the right-hand margin (wrong reading) is the portion of a countermark: '1837'. This is a quarter-sheet of Rump paper.

Copy 3: ¼°? (237 × 182 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal. Upper and left-hand margins torn, lower and right-hand margins sharp.

Note:

Square brackets in line 11 do not enclose interpolations, but are part of the text of the announcement.

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4 (Copy 1) and Box 5 (Copy 2); BL: 1899.r.13 (Copy 3, mounted)

P7 11 December 1852

[royal arms 30 × 30 mm] | **GRAND ENTERTAINMENT!**
| On | Saturday evening, the 11th. Dec. 1852. will take place | A |
BAL MASQUE. [ornamented] | on board | HER MAJESTY'S SHIP,
PLOVER, [doric] | WINTER QUATERS. [doric] | [6 lines] |
[hairline rule 114 mm] | Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office. *Stet*
'QUATERS'

Announcement: 17 ll. (174 × 110 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: ¼° (204 × 161 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). Upper and left-hand margins torn; lower and right-hand margins sharp. Running from bottom to top along left-hand margin (wrong reading) is countermark: 'THSAUNDERS & Co'. This is a quarter sheet of Saunders paper.

Copy 2: ¼°? (203 × 160 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal. Upper and left-hand margins sharp; lower and right-hand margins torn.

Note:

In his journal entry for 11 December 1852, Maguire states that "After dinner the people were allowed to amuse themselves preparing their dresses for a maquerade [sic] to be held in the evening — of which our Amateur printing press gave ample notice in a well executed bill."

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4 (Copy 1); BL: 1899.r.13 (Copy 2, mounted)

P8 24 December 1852

V. [royal arms 30 × 30 mm] R. [ornamented] | THEATRE
ROYAL, | POINT BARROW. | On FRIDAY EVENING,
DECEMBER 24, 1852, ['FRIDAY EVENING, DECEMBER' doric]
| Will be performed the Laughable Farce of the | QUEER
SUBJECT. | DRAMATIS PERSONÆ. [doric] | [cast list, 8 lines
set in 2 columns] | The Entertainment to conclude with a variety of
| Nautical & Sentimental songs. | [hairline rule 113 mm] | Doors
open at half past six, Performance to commence at seven precisely.

Playbill: 19 ll. (163 × 121 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: ¼° (220 × 158 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). Lower and left-hand margins torn; upper and right-hand margins sharp. Running from top to bottom along left-hand margin (right-reading) is countermark: 'THSAUNDERS & Co'. This is a quarter-sheet of Saunders paper.

Copy 2: ¼°? (204 × 160 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal. Upper and right-hand margins sharp, lower and left-hand margins torn.

Notes:

"The Queer Subject," written by J. Stirling Coyne (1803-1868), was first performed at the Theatre Royal, Adelphi, in November 1836.

John Matthews, gunner's mate on the *Plover*, remarked in his journal entry for November 1852: "As we have heretofore made it a rule to commence our performances on Christmas Eve, I am now busy arranging the parts of a piece for that occasion. It is a farce called "The Queer Subject," and as our dresses and scenery are greatly out of repair, it will take some time to arrange everything. It is a very laughable farce and I have not the least doubt our audience will be highly satisfied."

In December 1852, he continues: "I am happy to say we commenced our Christmas holidays by bringing before the public our laughable farce of "The Queer Subject," and I am very much pleased to find we gave universal satisfaction." The play was so well received, that it was repeated in January, but it would appear that no playbill was printed for the second performance.

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 5 (Copy 1); BL: 1899.r.13 (Copy 2, mounted)

P9 5 February 1853

V. [royal arms 30 × 30 mm] R. [ornamented] | FANCY DRESS BALL | & | MASQUERADB. [ornamented] | [hairline rule 38 mm] | [4 lines] | SATURDAY EVENING NEXT, [doric] | The 5th of February 1853. | [hairline rule 38 mm] | [3 lines] | The 'Royal' Band will be in attendance. | [hairline rule 113 mm] | Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office. *Stet* 'MASQUERADB'

Announcement: 18 ll. (135 × 124 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: ¼° (203 × 161 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). Upper and left-hand margins sharp; lower and right-hand margins torn. Running from bottom to top, along right-hand margin (wrong-reading) is countermark: 'THSAUNDERS & Co'. This is a quarter sheet of Saunders paper.

Copy 2: ¼° (203 × 161 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). Upper and left-hand margins sharp; lower and right-hand margins torn. At right-hand margin is the lower half of a vryheyt watermark. This is a quarter sheet of Saunders paper.

Copy 3: ¼°? (202 × 159 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal. Lower and left-hand margins torn, upper and right-hand margins sharp.

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4 (Copies 1 and 2); BL: 1899.r.13 (Copy 3)

P10 13 February 1853

NOTICE. | [hairline rule 38 mm] | Wanted! as letter sorters and carriers, | several smart hands and nimble feet to assist | in the Post Office. | Apply to Mr. Johnson, Post Master. | [hairline rule 73 mm] | Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office.

Notice: 8 ll. (43 × 76 mm)

Format and Paper:

1/12° (100 × 108 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). All edges torn except for upper margin. Along lower margin runs the right-hand half of a vryheyt watermark. This is a twelfth of a sheet of Saunders paper.

Note:

Simpson's letter to John Barrow (British Library: Barrow bequest, MS. Add. 35,308, f. 150) adds: "The Valentines Day was the best joke of all as I had kept the secret all to myself. The blowing of the horn to announce the arrival of a mail from England was looked upon as a 'regular Guy' until the postman went his rounds, furnishing a Valentine for every man on the lower deck then was sufficient excitement to do them for a week."

Copy examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 5

P11 26 February 1853

V. [royal arms 30 × 30 mm] R, [ornamented] | THEATRE ROYAL, | POINT BARROW. [doric] | [hairline rule 38 mm] | On Saturday Evening, February 26th, 1853, | Will be performed the | LAUGHABLE FARCE [ornamented] | of | THE ORIGINAL! | Dramatis Personæ | [cast list, 7 lines set in 2 columns] | [hairline rule 74 mm] | [3 lines] | [hairline rule 74 mm] | Doors open at seven o'clock, Curtain rises at half past. | [hairline rule 113 mm] | N.B. The gallery has been fitted up in elegant style expressly for respectable colored people. | [2-point rule 74 mm] | Amateur Printing Office Point Barrow. *Stet* 'R,'

Playbill: 28 ll. (183 × 127 mm)

Format and Paper:

¼° (202 × 161 mm), grey machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). Upper and left-hand margins torn; lower and right-hand margins sharp. At the left-hand margin can be seen the lower half of a Britannia watermark. This is a quarter-sheet.

Note:

"The Original," written by J. Maddison Morton (1811-1891), was first performed at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, on 13 November 1837.

Copy examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4

P12 April 1853

[Message for a balloon launched on 12 April 1853]

Note:

According to Maguire's journal entry for 12 April 1853, a balloon "of Mr. Shephards construction" was sent up on that day. It is probable that messages were attached, but none has been located yet, and Simpson does not mention in his journal that any were printed.

Copy located: None.

P13 April 1853

[Recto: printed in October 1852] ARCTIC EXPEDITION | in search of | SIR JOHN FRANKLIN. | [hairline rule 42 mm] | Her Majesty's Ship 'Plover' will be found wintering (1852-53) two | miles S.E. (true) of Point Barrow, called by the natives Noo-wook. | [4 lines] | [] Commander. | [hairline rule 75 mm] | Printed on board H. M. S. Plover, on the 29th. of October 1852.

[Verso: printed in April 1853] The movements and position of the 'Plover', after July, 1853, will | altogether depend upon further instructions or intelligence from the | Admiralty. | These papers will be distributed by a sledge-party, under the conduct | of Commander Maguire of H. M. S. 'Plover', engaged in examining the | coast between Point Barrow and the Return Reef of Sir J. Franklin.

Notice: 13 ll. recto (83 × 121 mm); 6 ll. verso (32 × 125 mm)

Format and Paper:

1/8°? (100 × 156 mm), blue laid, chainlines horizontal. Upper and right-hand margins sharp, lower margin torn; left-hand margin (probably torn) bound into volume. One quarter of a Britannia watermark appears in the lower left-hand corner.

Note:

This is the notice of 29 October 1852 with additional text printed on the verso in April 1853.

Copy examined: PRO: ADM 7/195, f. 575

P14 4 July 1853

ARCTIC EXPEDITION | In search of | SIR JOHN FRANKLIN. | [hairline rule 38 mm] | This paper is printed for distribution by the natives of Point Barrow | among the Eastern Esquimaux at Barter Island, with the hope that it may | fall into the hands of any persons belonging to the Arctic Expeditions who | may be on or near the coast. | Should this hope be realized, the parties will learn that the 'Plover' | has wintered (1852-53,) at Point Barrow, called by the natives Noo-wook, | where it has been ascertained only that H.M.S. Investigator was seen pass- | ing to the eastward of Return Reef in 1850, and the Enterprize in 1851. | [7 lines] | [] Commander. | [hairline rule 113 mm] | Printed on board H. M. S., Plover, on the 4th of July 1853. *Stet* 'H. M. S.,'

Notice: 22 ll. (142 × 122 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: ¼° (204 × 162 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (26 mm). Upper and right-hand margins sharp; lower and left hand margins torn. At the left-hand margin can be seen the upper half of a vryheyt watermark. This is a quarter-sheet of Saunders paper.

Copy 2: ¼°? (199 × 159 mm), pale blue machine wove. Upper and left-hand margins torn, lower and right-hand margins sharp.

Copy 3: ¼° (200 × 152 mm), pale blue machine wove. Upper and left-hand margins sharp, lower and right-hand margins torn. Running from bottom to top along left-hand margin (wrong reading) is watermark: 'C ANSELL | 1850'.

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4 (Copy 1); BL: Barrow bequest, MS. Add. 35,305, f. 57 (Copy 2, mounted); PRO: ADM 7/195, f. 576 (Copy 3)

P15 August 1853

NOTICE | To be left with the Natives of | POINT BARROW. |
The 'Plover' arrived at this place, the native name of which is Noo-
wook, | on the third of September last, wintered here and left
for Behring's Straits in | August 1853, for further orders. If she does
not return hither she will pro- | bably be found at Grantley Harbor
next winter. | The only intelligence obtained of ships is, that the
Investigator in 1850, and the Enterprize in 1851, on their passage to
the eastward, were visited by | the natives. | The natives here have
proved on the whole friendly, but they are not | to be trusted by an
unarmed party. | H. M. S. Plover, [] August, 1853. | [] Commander.

Notice: 13 ll. (108 × 125 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: ¼°? (156 × 198 mm), white machine wove. Upper and right-hand margins sharp, lower and left-hand margins torn.

Copy 2: ¼°? (158 × 195 mm), white machine wove. Upper and right-hand margins sharp, lower margin torn; left-hand margin (probably torn) bound into volume.

Copies examined: BL: 1899.r.13 (Copy 1, mounted); PRO: ADM 7/195, f. 577 (Copy 2)

P16 19 August 1853

V. [royal arms 30 × 30 mm] R. [ornamented] | AMPHITRITE
 THEATRE ROYAL, | PORT CLARENCE. | [hairline rule 39
 mm] | The Amateurs of H. M. S. Amphitrite, feel great pleasure in
 announcing to | their friends, that they will be able to give a series of
 Entertainments, com- | mencing on Friday, August 19th, 1853; also,
 at the same time, beg | leave, most respectfully, to inform them that
 they have in progress, a | new farce; but owing to the shortness of
 time they are not able to complete | their arrangements in producing
 it on this occasion. | [hairline rule 38 mm] | Manager, J. M. Wilson
 ---Prompter, Alex. Edwards | [2-point rule 123 mm] | PROGRAMME.
 [doric] | OPENING CHORUS. | After which, will be presented,
 the farce of | BOX AND COX, [ornamented] | In one act.---scene,
 a furnished room. | Characters: | [cast list, 4 lines set in 3 columns] |
 Duett - Recitation - Songs | After which, | A NEW
 PANTOMIME | prepared expressly for this occasion, entitled |
 FUN, FOOLERY, FROLIC, AND MIRTH; [doric] | [9 lines] |
 Boxes free - Pitt nothing - Gallery less.

Playbill: 38 ll. (225 × 127 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: ½° (327 × 202 mm), blue machine laid, chainlines vertical (27 mm). Left hand margin torn, others sharp. A half sheet.

Copy 2: ½° (327 × 202 mm), blue machine laid, chainlines vertical (27 mm). Left hand margin torn, others sharp. A half sheet.

Note:

The popular farce of “Box and Cox,” written by J. Maddison Morton (1811-1891), was first performed in 1847 at the Olympic Theatre, London. Interestingly, the character called “Box” is a journeyman printer.

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4

P17 5 November 1853

GUY FAUX NIGHT! | **GRAND BALL.** [ornamented] |
The Evening of Saturday next, the 5th of November, 1853, | Will be
celebrated on board | Her Majesty's Ship Plover at Point Barrow, |
By a | **HYPERBOREAN DANCE,** [doric] | To which all the |
NATIVE RANK AND BEAUTY, [doric] | (As well as some of the
riff-raff), | **OF NOOWOOK** [doric] | Will be invited. | [hairline
rule 38 mm] | [5 lines] | The evening's amusement will conclude
with a display of | **FIREWORKS.** | [hairline rule 113 mm] | N.B.
To Aspirant Lessees. -- The Scenery, Dresses &c., of the Theatre |
are now on view. Apply to the Propertyman.

Announcement: 23 ll. (160 × 127 mm)

Format and Paper:

Copy 1: 1° (224 × 179 mm), heavily-sized, pale blue machine wove.
All edges sharp and gilt. Presumably stationery.

Copy 2: 1° (224 × 179 mm), heavily-sized, pale blue machine wove.
All edges sharp and gilt. Presumably stationery.

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4

P18 12 November 1853

ARCTIC SEARCHING EXPEDITION. [doric] | (For the information of Henry Trollope, Esquire, | Commander of Her Majesty's Ship Rattlesnake.) | [hairline rule 38 mm] | H. M. S. Plover arrived at Point Barrow on the 7th of September, 1853. | A travelling party will be dispatched early in July to place further particu- | lars at Points Franklin and Belcher, (Seahorse Islands), | and if possible at | Cape Collie. | [4 lines] | [] Commander. | [hairline rule 113 mm] | Printed on board the 'Plover' the 12th of November, 1853.

Notice: 16 ll. (82 × 126 mm)

Format and Paper:

1/8°? (99 × 158 mm), blue machine wove. Upper and left hand margins sharp; lower and right-hand margins torn.

Copy examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4

P19 18 March 1854

V. [royal arms 30 × 30 mm] R. [ornamented] | FANCY DRESS BALL | & | MASQUERADE. [ornamented] | [hairline rule 38 mm] | The Manager of the Theatre on board H. M. S. Plover, after a consider- | able though involuntary respite from the laborious duties of his office, feels | himself in a position to contribute somewhat to the amusement of the Public | whom he invites to use his boards for a FANCY DRESS BALL to be held on | SATURDAY EVENING NEXT, [doric] | The 18th of March, 1854. | [hairline rule 38 mm] | [7 lines] | [hairline rule 113 mm] | Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office.

Notice: 21 ll. (147 × 126 mm)

Format and Paper:

¼°? (200 × 162 mm), white machine laid, chainlines horizontal (25 mm). Upper and left-hand margins torn; lower and right-hand margins sharp. Running from bottom to top, along left-hand margin (wrong-reading), is a countermark or a portion of a countermark: 'HODGKINSON & C°'

Copy examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4

P20 1 July 1854

ARCTIC SEARCHING EXPEDITION. [doric] | [hairline rule 73 mm] | Her Majesty's Ship Plover, has passed a second winter at Point Barrow, | which the natives call Noo-wook, and is ordered to proceed south to Grant- | ley Harbour this summer, having first constructed a house and buried provi- | sions. The site selected for the house is on the gravel spit two miles S. E. | true, from the village ; beneath the floor of which the cache will be made, | but it is impossible to say the natives will allow it to remain undisturbed : | 120 lbs. of pemmican will also be found at Cape Halket in the face of the | cliff. This is printed for distribution among the natives who travel eastward | to Barter Point, in the hope that it may fall into the hands of any party of | the missing Expedition who may be travelling this way. | The natives have been friendly with us but ought not to be trusted by | strangers, and cannot be relied on for provisions as they frequently suffer | from famine themselves. | Dated at Point Barrow, this [] day of July, 1854 | [] Commander | [hairline rule 112 mm] | Printed on board H. M. S. Plover, on the 1st of July, 1854.

Notice: 19 ll. (91 x 125 mm)

Format and Paper:

1/8°? (100 × 161 mm), pale blue machine laid, chainlines horizontal. Lower and left-hand margins sharp, upper and right-hand margins torn.

Note:

The British Library copy is signed by Maguire and dated the 2nd. The copy sold in the Streeter sale was signed by Maguire and dated the 1st.

Copy examined: BL: Barrow bequest, MS. Add. 35,305, f. 58 (mounted). A second copy (not examined) is described and reproduced in: *The celebrated collection of Americana formed by the late Thomas Winthrop Streeter* (New York : Parke-Bernet, 1969), no. 3525.

P21 20 July 1854

ARCTIC SEARCHING EXPEDITION. [doric] | [hairline rule 73 mm] | In compliance with orders, Her Majesty's Ship Plover wintered here | 1853 - 4, and having built a house and buried provisions, will now sail for | Port Clarence with the first favorable wind. | Provisions will be found in three caches, one in the centre of the house, | one E.N.E. (mag.) 80 feet from the head post of the house, and one W.S.W. | 130 feet; all in a line with the end post of the house, and the mark on the | centre of the spit to the westward in one. | Dated at Point Barrow, this [] day of July, 1854. | [] Commander. | [hairline rule 111 mm] | Printed on board H. M. S. Plover.

Notice: 13 ll.

Format and Paper:

1/8°? (99 × 162 mm), pale blue machine laid, chainlines horizontal. Lower and left-hand margins sharp, upper and right-hand margins torn.

Note:

The British Library copy is signed by Maguire and dated the 20th.

Copy examined: BL: Barrow bequest, MS. Add. 35,305, f. 58 (mounted)

P22 Weekly guy**Masthead:**

THE WEEKLY GUY | [hairline rule 73 mm] | [hairline rule 73 mm]
| No. i.] Friday, Novr. 5, 1852 [Gratis. | [hairline rule 73 mm]

Dates of issue:

No. i	'Friday, Novr. 5, 1852'	No. ix	'Friday, Dec. 31, 1852'
No. ii	'Friday, Novr. 12, 1852'	No. x	'Friday, Jany. 7, 1853'
No. iii	'Friday, Novr. 19, 1852'	No. xi	'Friday, Jany. 14, 1852' [stet '1852']
No. iv	'Friday, Novr. 26, 1852'	No. xii	'Friday, Jany. 21, 1853'
No. v	'Friday, Dec. 3, 1852'	No. xiii	No copies located
No. vi	'Friday, Dec. 10, 1852'	No. xiv	'Friday, Feby. 4, 1853'
No. vii	'Friday, Dec. 17, 1852'	No. xv	'Friday, Novr. 4, 1853'
No. viii	'Friday, Dec. 24, 1852'		

The square brackets in the transcription of the masthead are actually used in the text. They do not enclose interpolated information.

The amount of space left between the first line of masthead type and the two rules below it varies from issue to issue, as does the centering of that type in the line.

The date printed below the masthead does not always reflect the actual date of issue. In no. iv of the *Guy*, Simpson stated that it would be more convenient to issue the paper on Saturday evening, but that the masthead date of the preceding Friday would be retained.

Running title: THE WEEKLY GUY. | [hairline rule 73 mm]

Imprint at end of each issue:

- No. i: 'Printed at the Barrow AmaterOffice' [Stet 'AmaterOffice']
No. ii, iv, vi, vii, x, xiv, xv: 'Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office.'
No. iii: 'Printed at the Barrow Amateur Office.' [Stet 'Office' with a zero in place of an upper-case "O"]
No. v, viii, ix, xi, xii: 'Barrow Amateur Printing Office.'
No. xiii: Not located

Typepage: Varies: 96/131 (110/139, with running title) × 75/77 mm. The height of the type page varies greatly, averaging around 121 mm. The type page width is far more consistent — almost invariably 76 mm.

Pagination: [1] 2-60. The first page of each 4-page issue is not numbered. The page number appears at the outside margin, in the same line as the running title. The pagination for issue no. xiii has been conjectured ([49] 50-52), since no copies of that issue have been located.

Format and Paper:

Copy 1:

No. iii: 2° (185 × 229 mm): *A*². Bluish-grey machine wove. Lower margin torn; all other edges sharp. Unmarked. This is probably writing paper trimmed slightly along the bottom margin.

No. v: ¼° (160 × 250 mm): *A*². White machine laid, chainlines vertical (26 mm). Upper and left-hand margins sharp; lower and right-hand margins torn. Countermark date "1851" along lower edge. This is a quarter-sheet of Saunders paper.

No. vi: ¼° (161 × 205 mm): *A*². White machine laid, chainlines vertical (26 mm). Upper and left-hand margins sharp; lower and right-hand margins torn. Upper portion of the vryheyt watermark at lower edge. This is a quarter-sheet of Saunders paper.

No. vii: ¼° (185 × 236 mm): *A*². White machine laid, chainlines vertical (27.5 mm). Upper and left-hand margins sharp, lower and right-hand margins torn. Upper portion of fleur-de-lis watermark at lower edge. This is a quarter-sheet of Rump paper.

No. ix: ¼° (165 × 203 mm): *A*². White machine laid, chainlines vertical (25.5 mm). Upper and left-hand margins sharp, lower and right-hand margins torn. Countermark '1846' at lower edge.

No. xi: ¼° (160 × 235 mm): *A*². White machine laid, chainlines vertical (26 mm). Upper and left-hand margins sharp, lower and right-hand margins torn. Bottom half of vryheyt watermark at lower edge. This is a quarter-sheet of Saunders paper.

No. xv: ¼° (184 × 239 mm): *A*². White machine laid, chainlines vertical (26.5/27.5 mm). Lower and left-hand margins sharp; upper and right-hand margins torn. Countermark "J RUMP" at upper edge. This is a quarter-sheet of Rump paper.

Copy 2:

Nos. i-xii and xiv: White machine laid, unmarked, chainlines vertical (27.5 mm). Issues closely cropped and tightly bound together, either by John Barrow, Jr., or by the Royal Geographical Society. This set of issues was probably printed on uniform paper for presentation to Barrow. Rochfort Maguire recorded in his journal on 22 October 1852 that "a few copies [of each issue of the *Guy*] are to be kept for the kind originator, who has shown much kindness in everything connected with the *Plover*."

Copies examined: NCD: John Simpson papers, Box 4 (Copy 1); RGS: *Arctic pamphlets, 1854-55*, v. 3, item 7 (Copy 2)

RÉSUMÉ

A la fin du dix-huitième siècle, des presses à imprimer commencent petit à petit à faire leur apparition à bord de navires britanniques, américains et français, et produisent une petite quantité d'imprimés. Puis soudainement, au milieu du dix-neuvième siècle, l'édition sur les vaisseaux se répand dans une des régions les plus improbables, c'est-à-dire l'Arctique canadien. Entre novembre 1850 et septembre 1854, presque cent imprimés furent produits à bord de sept vaisseaux britanniques, tous impliqués dans la recherche pour retrouver Sir John Franklin. Cet article porte sur une de ces presses maritimes, celle qui se trouvait à bord du *Plover*, navire de ravitaillement rattaché à l'*Enterprise* d'Edward Collinson et à l'*Investigator* de Robert Maclure.

L'article examine le but des presses à bord des vaisseaux dans l'Arctique en se basant sur des documents du Public Record Office. Le récit des circonstances entourant le fonctionnement quotidien de la presse du *Plover* en particulier sont tirées des journaux particuliers et des lettres de Rochfort Maguire, commandant du navire, de John Simpson, l'imprimeur et chirurgien et de John Matthews, second maître canonier. Les imprimés du *Plover* sont comparés à ceux des autres navires impliqués dans la recherche pour Franklin en faisant ressortir les caractéristiques propres à chaque presse. Des photographies illustrent la variété des imprimés. Le papier, les caractères et les ornements utilisés sur le *Plover* sont décrits en détail, alors que la méthode précise d'imprimerie est inférée à partir des données bibliographiques. En appendice, on trouve un catalogue bibliographique décrivant chacun des imprimés du *Plover* avec une liste des exemplaires localisés.