



4

John Franklin

— Lieutenant of the Royal Navy —

As 'Commander' of this expedition, I must bear some of the responsibility of the grisly fate that befell 11 of my 19 fellow-travellers. After our 8-day delay attempting to cross the Coppermine River, the expedition party lost strength and morale. Shortly thereafter, on October 11th, I arrived at Fort Enterprise with a small group of voyageurs. I only learned of the fate of Michel Terohaute when Richardson and Hepburn rejoined us on October 29th.

ALIVE



2

John Richardson

— Surgeon of the Royal Navy —

A man of science, I was primarily interested in the flora and fauna of North America, but got caught up in the human drama that saw Michel Terohaute die on the tundra. He was the only voyageur to find Hepburn, Hood, and I as we waited for aid, a few days north of Fort Enterprise. As George Back said to the NWC factor in a letter some time later: "to tell the truth, things have taken place which must not be known."

ALIVE



5



George Back

— *Admiralty Midshipman* —

I admit that I came close to killing on this expedition. Fellow Midshipman Robert Hood and I nearly fought a duel for the affections of the 16-year old Yellowknife girl Greenstockings, who later had a child by Hood when I was gone seeking supplies in Fort Chipewyan. But, as I led the advance party who went to Fort Enterprise and then in a desperate search for aid to rescue Franklin and the others, I couldn't have killed Terohaute.

ALIVE



2



Robert Hood

— *Admiralty Midshipman* —

Weeks of eating rock lichen simply didn't agree with my stomach, and contributed to my weakened state. After the traumatic passage across Obstruction Rapids, Dr. Richardson and John Hepburn pitched a tent on October 7th and remained with me until my untimely death — suicide by rifle shot to the back of the head, if Michel Terohaute is to be believed — on October 20th. Clearly I was too dead to have killed Michel, three days later.

MURDERED



2



John Hepburn

— English Seaman —

Though not an officer of the expedition *per se*, my efforts to gather rock lichen and cut firewood when others were too weak, provided comfort to the party in its darkest moments. In fact, I was cutting wood when I witnessed the murder of Midshipman Hood. Michel's erratic and accusatory behaviour led Dr. Richardson and I to believe that he would kill us next. Once we had a chance to plan alone, Mr. Richardson took it upon himself to make sure this didn't happen.

ALIVE



2



Michel Terchaute

— North West Company Voyageur —

I joined John Franklin's expedition in Fort Chipewyan. After the party finally crossed the Coppermine River on October 4th, I became too weak to continue. J-B Belanger and I elected to rejoin Hood and Richardson's camp where they had halted the day before. Belanger never arrived and some say I ate him. Almost a fortnight later, following an argument we had, Hood shot himself in the back of his head with a rifle. The next day on October 23rd, I was killed by a pistol shot to the head.

MURDERED





4

Hæootcærock (Junius)

— Inuit Interpreter —

Hailing from the eastern Arctic, I first met John Franklin's party at Moose Deer Island Fort, on Great Slave Lake. The HBC at Fort Churchill had sent Augustus and me to help the expedition. Besides translating between the Englishmen and Copper Inuit, I was heavily depended upon as a hunter. After a week when I didn't return from a hunting sortie, the group crossed the Coppermine on October 4th and never saw me again.

MISSING



1

Tattanncæuck (Augustus)

— Inuit Interpreter —

My friend Junius and I joined Franklin's expedition at Fort Providence, after spending the winter in an igloo at Moose Deer Island near Fort Resolution. I walked on in advance of the party after we crossed the Coppermine and found my own way to Fort Enterprise. I left to travel south with Benoit in search of help on October 20th. The party rejoined me at Akaitcho's camp over a month later as we returned to Fort Providence, long after Michel was dead.

ALIVE



5



Pierre St. Germain

— *Chipewyan Métis Interpreter* —

Franklin hired me in Fort Resolution and relied on me to translate, hunt, and save the expedition from total ruin. Indeed, for weeks I had strenuously objected to proceeding with the expedition, which my superiors took as insubordination. It was my idea to build a willow-frame boat to cross the Coppermine after our canoes were destroyed. I was en route to find Akaitcho, south of Fort Enterprise from October 14th to early November and so could not have killed Terohaute.

ALIVE



4



Jean Baptiste Adam

— *Chipewyan Métis Interpreter* —

I joined the expedition at Old Fort Providence and acted as a translator and hunter. I was with Franklin when we arrived at Fort Enterprise on October 11th, and like him subsisted on lichen, ground bones and boiled and singed hide. I was bedridden until October 30th as Dr. Richardson treated my Edemas with incisions on my legs. I was too weak to even speak until Akaitcho's men arrived with caribou tongues and dry meat on November 7th.

ALIVE



4



Joseph Bencit

— *North West Company Voyageur* —

I joined Franklin at Fort Chipewyan and was one of only two voyageurs who survived the return journey. After being suspected of having dropped one of the canoes intentionally, I managed to reach Fort Enterprise with Franklin on October 11th but journeyed south with Augustus to find Akaitcho on October 20th. I finally returned to Fort Enterprise with food and supplies on November 15th. I was nowhere near Terohaute when he was killed.

ALIVE



5



Solomon Belanger

— *Hudson Bay's Company Voyageur* —

Known as “le gros”, I was hired at Cumberland House to paddle canoes and lug 90lbs. packs of gear to the Arctic Ocean and back. I nearly died in rapids on the Anatessey (Burnside) River and after falling through ice at Little Marten lake but survived and was well south of Michel Terohaute between October 18th and November 3rd, when I found tracks that led us to Akaitcho.

ALIVE



1



Michel Pelonquin

— Hudson Bay's Company Voyageur —

My travelling companions called me "Crédit." As a hunter, I sometimes disappeared overnight, only to reemerge after having bagged a deer or other game. However, just like my friend Registre Vaillant, I collapsed in the snow on October 6th. Richardson came to look for me, but I'd already turned back to the previous camp and never was heard from again. Barring Junius' early demise, I may have been the first of the expedition to die.

DECEASED



1



Registre Vaillant

— Hudson Bay's Company Voyageur —

As the axeman of the group, I helped construct the houses at Fort Enterprise. But after struggling to keep up with the group as we trudged over the barrenlands between the Arctic Ocean and the Coppermine River, I collapsed in the snow on October 6th. The others left my blanket and belongings on the trail, and Richardson came to encourage me in the hope that I'd recover. I didn't. J-B Belanger found me immobilized, and I soon froze to death.

DECEASED



3



Ignace Perrault

— *Hudson Bay's Company Voyageur* —

I travelled with Franklin from Lake Athabasca to the Arctic Ocean and back — nearly but not quite — to Fort Enterprise. When on October 8th, I couldn't walk any further, I asked to leave the main group to follow Michel Terohaute and J-B Belanger back to Hood and Richardson's camp. Michel told the others on October 10th that I had given him my gun and ammunition, though it was suspected that he killed me to cover up his murder of J-B Belanger.

MISSING



3



Jean Baptiste Belanger

— *North West Company Voyageur* —

Known as "le rouge", I had joined the expedition in Fort Chipewyan during the summer of 1820 for the journey to Great Slave Lake. On our return from the Arctic Ocean, I was unable to continue to Fort Enterprise. Michel Terohaute and I requested to turn back towards Dr. Richardson and John Hepburn, who both tended the sickly Robert Hood. I never arrived and was presumed to have been killed and/or eaten by Michel on October 8th.

MISSING



3



Vincenza Fontano

— *Hudson Bay's Company Voyageur* —

An Italian mercenary and veteran of the Regiment de Meuron, I joined Franklin's expedition. At both the beginning of the journey to the Arctic Coast and the return voyage, I found myself extremely weak and debilitated. I hoped that if I survived, the Commander would send me home to my father. I attempted to reach Hood and Richardson's Camp alone on October 8th, but never made it, never to be seen again.

MISSING



5



Gabriel Beuparlant

— *North West Company Voyageur* —

A veteran voyageur, I had trekked immense distances with George Back as his assistant, and was again with him and St. Germain in the advance party to Fort Enterprise. When we found the fort empty, we carried on in search of Akaitcho's camp. I grew weak and dizzy on October 16th, and collapsed in the snow. I was found frozen to death by St. Germain.

DECEASED



4



Joseph Peltier

— North West Company Voyageur —

Recruited at Fort Chipewyan, I arrived at Fort Enterprise with Franklin on October 11th, never to leave the place again or see Terohaute! Initially, I was one of the few with enough energy to pound bones, make lichen soup, and tend to my weakened comrades, especially Adam, but by late October my energy began to fail. Having lost hope, I died on November 1st, the date that I had predicted ten days before. My companions would miss my cheerful and affectionate presence.

DECEASED



4



Francis Samandré

— North West Company Voyageur —

A voyageur on the trip north from Lake Athabasca, I became the camp cook on the return trip from the Arctic Ocean. I arrived at deserted Fort Enterprise with Franklin on October 11th and remained there until my throat became so sore I couldn't swallow lichen soup, cooked moccasins, or pound bones. I died on the morning of November 2nd, shortly after Peltier, and five days before the arrival of aid from Akaitcho's men.

DECEASED

