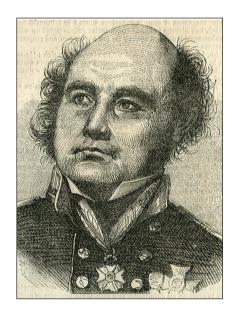


Engraving of life in the polar regions that appeared in *The Illustrated London News* on October 13, 1849, as part of the newspaper's extensive coverage of the missing Arctic expedition of Sir John Franklin. This and other sketches in the series were taken from journals of other Arctic expeditions, as nothing was available from the missing Franklin expedition itself. (Illustration digitally scanned by and provided courtesy Russell A. Potter.)



Sir John Franklin, the leader of an 1845–1847 expedition that disappeared while searching for the Northwest Passage, precipitating at least 32 search and rescue expeditions over the next 15 years. Franklin was one of many explorers seeking a shortened route to the riches of the Orient. He and his crew, all of whom died during the expedition, would have had an easier time in many recent summers, in the 1990s and early 2000s, when the ice conditions in the Canadian Archipelago were considerably less severe. The portrait engraving appeared in the Illustrated Family Paper in the mid-1800s after all hope for a successful rescue had been abandoned. (Illustration digitally scanned by and provided courtesy Russell A. Potter.)