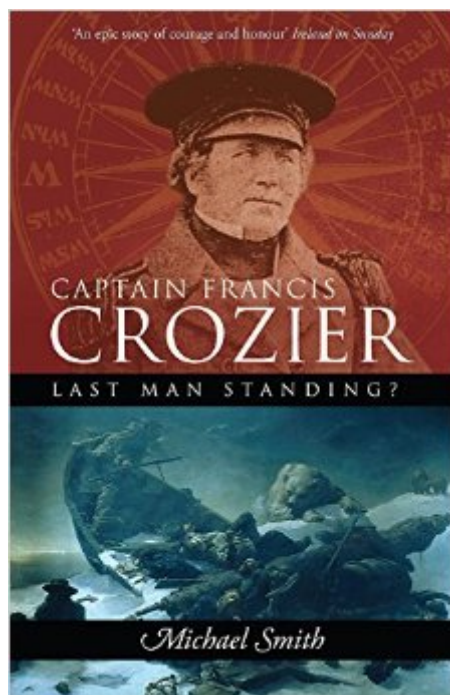


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# Captain Francis Crozier: Last Man Standing?



## Synopsis

Francis Crozier was a major figure in the epic quests of nineteenth-century Polar exploration - navigating the North West Passage, reaching the North Pole and mapping Antarctica. His remarkable story embraces six daring voyages to the world's most hostile regions and extraordinary feats of endurance, tragedy, and failed romance. The groundbreaking expeditions with legendary explorers like Parry, Ross and Franklin lifted the veil from the frozen wastes and were crucial to the exploits of Amundsen, Scott, and Shackleton. Crozier's personal tragedy was an unhappy love affair with Franklin's niece which drove him back to the ice one last time as second-in-command on Franklin's North West Passage expedition in 1845. All 129 men vanished on the ice. Crozier took command when the ships were crushed and the expedition was on the brink of disaster. For several years Crozier led a courageous battle trying to lead his men to safety. According to legend, Crozier was the last to die- the last man standing. But Crozier never received recognition for his great feats and became another of exploration's Irish unsung heroes. With illustrations, maps, and photos.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Francis Crozier made six exploration voyages to both the north and south poles in the 1800s. He traveled with and was respected by many of the well known explorers of his day such as Ross and Parry. Because he was an Irishman of modest means, he was passed over for honors other, lesser, men received. His accomplishments and fascinating history are brought to life in this well-researched story.

I actually purchased this book directly from Collins Press as a pre-order! It's about time this unsung hero had a deserving biography written and Michael Smith was the writer who accomplished this! Don't look to Dan Simmons' "The Terror" for the true story of Captain Francis Rawdon Moira Crozier - it's fiction. This is the book to read the true story of Captain Crozier's life and career. The only other biography written about Captain Crozier was published in 1976 by the Government of the NW Territories, written by Mae Fluhmann titled "Second In Command". I only got to read it through my main library's inter-library loan program and the book came from a library in Alaska. I could not check the book out so I had to read it at the library. Banbridge has not forgotten their native son - a memorial to Captain Crozier stands in the town square directly across from the house he was born in. Holy Trinity Church in Banbridge has a memorial from the brothers and sisters of Francis Crozier. Superb book and highly recommended!

I've read quite a lot about the various 19th Century Arctic and Antarctic explorations and, concerning the doomed Franklin Expedition I always felt that Captain Crozier should have gotten more credit. This book, which is very well written, gives a worthy man his due.

I am interested in the last Franklin's expedition for some years. This book uncovers life of maybe the most important member of this expedition, which took command of it in 1847 after John Franklin's death. And Crozier's unrequited love toward Franklin's niece could be one of causes of the disaster.

This is a good, true story about a major, but overlooked, Arctic and Antarctic explorer, Francis Crozier. It details his life as an Irishman in the British Navy, including the ethnic discrimination that held back his career. It is a nice companion piece to any of the first hand accounts of polar exploration written in the Golden Era of polar exploration. The narrative moves along at a good pace and fills in some missing pieces of the portrait of an officer whose name appears in many places in the biographies of other, more famous (by chance) British naval officers and explorers.

I've always been interested in the Franklin Expedition and it was a great read about that historic time and especially about Captain Crozier.

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