

the ship *Peacock*, and to be second officer of said squadron, and take command thereof, in the event of the death of the first officer, or his disability, from accident or sickness, to conduct the operations of the Expedition.

(Signed) MAHLON DICKERSON,  
Secretary of the Navy.

Navy Department, June 22d, 1838.

## V.

### MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDER OF THE EXPEDITION TO EXPLORE THE SOUTH SEAS, BY ADMIRAL KRUSENSTERN.

NOTE.—The asterisk after the number of some of these articles, denotes that the islands, &c., have been examined by the Expedition.

I. I HAVE pointed out, in the supplementary volume of my Hydrographical Memoirs, (pages 19, 96, and 113,) several islands, the existence of which does not appear to be subject to any doubt, but of which the position is not determined with the best precision. It is much to be wished that all such islands were to be visited, and their position verified. With respect to the islands of rather doubtful existence, the names of which I have given, (pages 156–165, supplement,) there is certainly no other method of ascertaining their existence than to search for them, and to determine, with the greatest precision, the latitudes and longitudes of such as are found. A great number of these imaginary islands will then, of course, vanish from the charts.

II. Captain Bligh discovered, in the year 1789, to the northward of the New Hebrides, a group of islands, which he named *Banks's Islands*; and Captain Wilson, another cluster of islands, to the northward of the Santa Cruz Islands, named by him *Duff's Group*. Neither these nor the Banks's Islands having been since seen, it would be well to make a new survey of them.

III. *Islands of Santa Cruz*.—In my Memoir, belonging to the chart of these islands, I have discussed the situation of Carteret's *Swallow Island*, and expressed my belief that the islands seen by Captain Wilson in 1797 are the same as Swallow Island. Captain Freycinet is of the same opinion, and, by a new survey of Wilson's Island, confirmed this hypothesis. There remains, then, no doubt that Byron's Swallow Island does not exist; but, as it still continues to be delineated on some