

diture of stores will take place, unless by a requisition approved by me.

Great care and economy of stores is enjoined upon the commanders in regard to the expenditures of provisions and stores; and much is expected, in regard to their preservation and expenditure, from the well-known prudence and attention of the officer commanding the Relief.

The attention of the commanders of the respective vessels is particularly called to the expenditure of wood, and every precaution is enjoined for its economical consumption.

The monthly returns will not only embrace the actual condition of the provisions and stores, but the quantity of wood, water, &c., on hand, and expended.

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
Hampton Roads, August 14th, 1838.

X.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS RELATIVE TO OBSERVATIONS.

THE surgeon and his assistants will take the meteorological observations at 3 P. M., 9 P. M., 3 A. M., and 9 A. M.; viz, the standing of barometer, thermometer, and hygrometer.

The temperature at the masthead, and that of the water, wind, weather, and the force of the wind, the quantity of rain, &c.; the officers of the watch will note and make any remarks of their own, regarding facts that may have occurred, (during their watch,) in the meteorological journal: all astronomical and atmospherical phenomena, it is desired may claim attention, and be noted under their respective heads. Astronomical phenomena, such as shooting stars, zodiacal lights, aurora borealis, the height of their arcs, their colours, &c., measured and the direction they take in the heavens. Atmospherical phenomena, such as rainbows, halos, water-spouts, lightning, appearance of the clouds, rain, the Magellanic clouds, to be noted when first observed; in short, any unusual appearance connected with the weather.

Of the sea, all phosphorescent lights, fishes, and all substances adhering to weeds, must not fail to claim attention, and specimens of them obtained. Fish caught must be preserved till opened in the presence of an officer, and their stomachs carefully examined, and if any thing is found, it must be taken care of.

Things and animals that might in ordinary cases be deemed trouble-