

bottle, enclosed in a heap of stones (a sailor's grave), on the right-hand side of that harbour, the entrance being at the east; and you will direct the officer in charge of the Flying-Fish to remain there, if he should hear nothing of me, as long as possible, even until the 1st of May, when she will proceed with all despatch to this port.

15th. Should you be shut up or detained by ice, which of course you will avoid by all possible means, you will, if possible, communicate to me at Deception Island, as in case you are out of time, you may rely on my sending there to hear from you, and afford any aid, as soon as the season will permit, to which place your boats or the tender can be navigated. It is my present intention, after surveying the southeast shore of Palmer's Land, to touch at Deception Island on my return north, and obtain or leave information as to our progress, in a bottle, as above described.

16th. You will, of course, give the most particular attention to the health and comfort of the officers and crews of your command, and the most economical expenditure of stores and provisions,—of which you have as much as you can stow, including a large supply of anti-scorbutics, preserved meats, &c.

17th. Should it in your opinion be found at any time during the cruise impracticable to carry into effect these orders, and you should be of opinion also that a further attempt south during the present season would be unavailing, owing to bad weather or obstructions, you will, on arriving at such conclusions, proceed direct to Valparaiso, and await further orders, making all necessary arrangements there in regard to a supply of provisions, &c., for the squadron. In such an event, you will immediately despatch the Flying-Fish to this anchorage for further orders, which, if we have left, will be found in a pile of stones on the summit of Burnt Island, near the tent and lighthouse; in the absence of which, however, she will proceed to Valparaiso for further orders.

In conclusion, I cannot express to you how much I feel for the safety of yourself, officers, and crews, on this first exploration you are about to make, and how deep an interest and anxiety I shall feel for you; that you may meet with all the success I wish for, and that we may rendezvous again to carry out this great national enterprise, is the fervent prayer of your attached friend,

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

CAPTAIN WM. L. HUDSON,
Peacock.