

all on board, and you have an ample supply of provisions, clothing, preserved meats, antiscorbutics, &c.

Wishing you a safe and successful cruise,

I am, &c.,

CHARLES WILKES,  
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

LIEUTENANT R. E. JOHNSON,  
In charge of Tender Sea-Gull.

## XXVII.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,  
Orange Harbour, Terra del Fuego,  
February 22d, 1839.

SIR,—

The tender Flying-Fish, placed under your charge, will be attached to the Peacock, and under the orders of Captain Hudson, during the present cruise.

1st. I cannot impress too strongly on your mind the necessity of avoiding, under any circumstances, parting company with the Peacock, as the safety of all on board that vessel may be hazarded thereby; every means will be taken therefore to prevent a separation.

2d. You will keep a strict daily journal of every occurrence relative to your co-operations with that vessel.

3d. A skeleton chart is furnished you, comprising the latitudes and longitudes in which you will cruise, and on which chart an accurate track must be laid down of the route, daily; also, the positions of all land, islands of ice, &c., which may be observed. Astronomical bearings, when the weather will permit, are preferable for this purpose.

4th. You will also enter on your journal, the variation of the compass, morning and evening; sketches of refractions, and minute observations of all phenomena that may be seen; also, sketches of the stratification of ice, temperature of the water on the weather and lee sides of the islands, the form and direction of currents, and the apparent formation of the ice; also, the collection and preservation of any stones, specimens of earth, &c., that may be discovered on the ice, and the appearance of any halos, auroras australis, &c.

5th. If you should unfortunately be separated from the Peacock, the following rendezvous are fixed by Captain Hudson, for meeting again, if possible:

1st.	Latitude	62° S.,	longitude	80° W.,	to wait	half a day.
2d.	"	64°	"	90°	"	one "
3d.	"	65°	"	100°	"	" "
4th.	"	66°	"	105°	"	" "