

And you will seek the nearest to the above named, coasting along the ice as near as possible, and locating your position on your skeleton chart.

6th. The Peacock will pursue the route laid down in the orders to Captain Hudson, of which the following is an extract, and will give you an idea of the intended cruise, viz. :

“On sailing from here you will proceed to longitude 105° W. (Cook's Ne Plus Ultra); from thence extend your researches as far to the southward and eastward as you can reach, without rendering yourself liable to be closed in by the ice.

“You will then navigate to the southward and eastward, until you reach the western side of Palmer's or Graham's Land, as it is called on the charts.

“It is believed that the latter part of the season will afford you an opportunity of penetrating here further south than has yet been done, and possibly meet an extension of Palmer's Land, more to the westward; if you should succeed, you will trace it to the eastward, and return by the southward and eastward side of it to this anchorage, (thus circumnavigating this land,) unless you should receive any information from me previously.

“In your progress from Cook's Ne Plus Ultra, of longitude 105° W., you will endeavour to get more and more to the southward, if possible, and reach to the southward of the small islands of Peter I., and Alexander, the farthest land south discovered by the Russians in 1821, and fall in with what Briscoe has denominated Graham's or Palmer's Land, (its proper American name.) I am of the opinion that it extends much farther to the southward and westward than where Briscoe saw the Adelaide Mountains.

“Your endeavours must be to get to the south of Peter I., and Alexander Islands, or south of the Russian track.”

7th. In the event of your separating from the Peacock, and not joining her again, which, however, is not probable, you will coast along the ice, agreeably to directions, as far as it may be prudent and safe, and proceed to Deception Island for information in regard to us, which if there, will be found in a sailor's grave, at the north of the entrance of the harbour, where you will deposit a communication; and in the absence of other orders, you will proceed to this anchorage, where you will find me, or orders on the summit of Burnt Island, at the flagstaff; in the absence of which, or any of the squadron, you will proceed direct to Valparaiso.

8th. You will attend particularly to the health and comfort of all on board; you have ten months' provisions on board for the crew, and