

## XLI.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,  
At Sea, July 16th, 1839.

WITH a view of avoiding any misapprehension in regard to the duties of the artists attached to the Exploring Expedition, and that their services and time may be as usefully engaged as possible, I deem it proper to state, that they will not confine themselves exclusively to any particular branch, without directions from me, but will divide their duties among the different departments in such a manner as may be deemed most conducive to the interest and benefit of the whole.

Very respectfully, &c.,

CHARLES WILKES,  
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

## ORDERS FOR OBSERVATIONS, ETC.

THE following arrangements with regard to observations will be daily attended to on board the different vessels of the squadron, under the directions of their respective commanders: returns will be made to me weekly.

1st. The lieutenant, passed midshipman, and midshipman, of the first watch will assist the master in the forenoon observations for time and azimuth.

2d. Those of the mid-watch will take the meridian altitude.

3d. Those of the morning watch will assist in the afternoon observations.

4th. The officers who have no night-watch will be called upon for measuring distances during the night.

5th. The master will be informed in time, when opportunities occur for making observations for amplitude, in the morning and evening.

6th. The results of each officer, signed by him, will be sent to the commander daily, and entered by his clerk in a book of observations, who will note the time when required.

(Signed) CHARLES WILKES,  
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,  
At Sea, July 16th, 1839.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,  
At Sea, August 2d, 1839.

SIR,—

When you suppose your vessel at her designated distance, you will hoist your ensign for firing, which will be answered as soon as seen.