

It is believed that the officers under your command require no special advice or direction from this Department. Bearing in mind, as they no doubt will, that the undertaking which they are about assisting to accomplish, is one that necessarily attracts the attention of the civilized world, and that the honour and interests of their country are equally involved in its results, it is not for a moment doubted that in this, as on all other occasions, they will so conduct themselves, as to add to the reputation our navy has so justly acquired at home and abroad.

With the best wishes for the success of the Expedition, and the safe return of yourself and your companions,

I am, very respectfully,

(Signed) J. K. PAULDING.

To LIEUTENANT CHARLES WILKES,

Commanding the Exploring and Surveying Expedition, &c.

P. S. The accompanying printed list of English words, drawn up by Mr. Gallatin, and received from the War Department since these instructions were prepared, are intended for Indian vocabularies, which can be filled up as circumstances permit, taking care that the same words be used in all of them.

(Signed) J. K. PAULDING.