

was late, I at least anticipated getting some experience among the ice; and I supposed that the lateness of the season would have allowed it to detach itself from the shores of Palmer's Land, and would permit as near an approach as possible to its main body or barrier, in the vicinity of Cook's Ne Plus Ultra.



ORANGE HARBOUR, TERRA DEL FUEGO.

Agreeably to my instructions, such disposition was made of the squadron as seemed best calculated to obtain the necessary results in the different departments. Captain Hudson, with the *Peacock*, and the *Flying-Fish*, under Lieutenant Walker, as a tender, were ordered to the westward, as far as the *Ne Plus Ultra* of Cook. I went in the *Porpoise*, Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold, accompanied by the *Sea-Gull*, Lieutenant Johnson, to pass to the south, for the purpose if possible of exploring the southeast side of Palmer's Land, or, should an opportunity offer, of proceeding further south. The *Relief*, Lieutenant-Commandant Long, was ordered into the Straits of Magellan, through the Brecknock Passage and Cockburn's Sound, with part of the gentlemen of the scientific corps, in order to enlarge our field of operations. Mr. Peale volunteered to go south in the *Peacock*.

The *Vincennes* was safely moored in Orange Harbour, and left under the charge of Lieutenant Craven, to carry on the investigations, surveys, &c. &c. Messrs. Couthouy and Drayton, of the scientific corps, remained in the *Vincennes*. Lieutenant Carr was put in charge of the observatory.