

You will avoid being blown off to the eastward by all the means in your power, running in with the coast, and anchoring during the westerly gales. I am not aware that you have any dangers to fear except kelp, which you may run boldly for, but avoid entering.

On your arrival at Orange Harbour, you will find me or instructions, or you will await my arrival there.

You will issue to such of the crew as require them, the articles of warm clothing supplied for the Exploring Expedition, charging them at the usual slop prices, to be remitted them at the end of the cruise, on their good behaviour.

You will give particular attention to the cleanliness of your ship, and the health of the officers and crew.

A chart of Orange Harbour will be found in your Book of Charts, No. 1079.

Lieutenant-Commandant Long, has been directed to keep the light burning during the night, on Burnt Island, as a signal to the squadron.

I send you herewith the rates of your chronometers.

Very respectfully,

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

To CAPTAIN WILLIAM L. HUDSON,

Peacock.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDANT C. RINGGOLD,

Porpoise.

PASSED MIDSHIPMAN J. W. E. REID,

Sea-Gull.

PASSED MIDSHIPMAN S. R. KNOX,

Flying-Fish.

GENERAL ORDERS.

As difficulties frequently occur in regard to the dates of the log-books and journals of the squadron under my command, owing to the difference between civil and nautical time; hereafter, all the log-books and journals will be kept in civil time, commencing at twelve o'clock this day, being the meridian of the 20th of February, 1839.

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
Orange Harbour, Feb. 20th, 1839.