

they were made by the best English, French, and German artists. A description of these will be given in the volume on Physics.

The longitudes of our principal stations have been determined by series of moon culminating stars, and meridian distances have been measured from them to other points by chronometers.

The latitudes of the important places were obtained by a number of sets of circum-meridian observations of sun and stars.

The chronometers used were by the best English makers, and most of them performed very satisfactorily. But two out of the twenty-nine became defective, and stopped; these will be more particularly noticed hereafter, in the volume pertaining to this subject. To it I must also refer for the manner in which our surveys were executed.

The magnetical instruments were by both English and French makers. Results have been had throughout the cruise, and will serve to give a magnetic chart of the world; these will be published in the volume on Physics. Those observations of more immediate interest in the high southern latitudes, will be embraced in these volumes.

In the Appendix will be found all the official documents relating to the operations of the Squadron. These I have thought it necessary to lay before the public, in order that it may have a full view of the whole of the operations in which the Squadron was employed, and may be able to examine and compare the orders under which we acted, with the duties which have been performed. The Narrative will embody all those which we executed, and will thus enable all to judge how the work was conducted. I have a strong desire also that the whole should appear, in order that the Expedition may stand before the country and the world, in its true merits. When they become aware of all the facts, they will be able to see the injustice that has been done it,—will wonder at the extraordinary reception that awaited its return, and the persecutions I met with, as the reward of the arduous labours of four years. These I cannot but feel were unjust, particularly as they were carried on without any hearing whatever, and even without any examination of the results, or any inquiry relative to the extent of the duties, or the manner in which they had been performed. This, however, is not the place to speak of these things.

I had, at an early day after my appointment, assigned the 10th of August as the time for our departure, and had assured the President that at that time I should be ready, and would sail; but that it was entirely impossible for me to