

XIV.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
Singapore Roads, Feb. 26th, 1842.

SIR,—

After leaving the Straits of Sunda, you will be governed by the following instructions, viz.:

You will proceed to the westward across the Indian Ocean, passing five or six hundred miles to the southward of the island of Panaw, double the Cape of Good Hope, and visit the island of St. Helena, where you will lose no time in filling up with water, and proceed from thence to Rio de Janeiro, at which place you will make experiments for dip and intensity, on the island of Enxados, and take on board a sufficient quantity of bread for the passage to New York.

When you arrive at New York, you will cause all journals, memorandums, remarks, writings, drawings, sketches and paintings, as well as all specimens of any kind, to be delivered to you; which, together with your own journal, you will have carefully boxed up and sealed in the presence of two commissioned officers; marked Exploring Expedition, and hold them subject to my orders.

On your arrival at New York, you will find orders from me, or, if I should not have arrived, you will report by letter to the Honourable Secretary of the Navy, sending him a copy of this order.

You are supplied with Six's self-registering thermometer, with which you will obtain the temperature daily, at the depth of one hundred fathoms, when your morning sights are taken; at which time you will note in tables the latitude and longitude, the current (velocity and direction), masthead temperature, deck temperature, and temperature at the depth of one hundred fathoms, and at the surface.

You will examine all shoals, banks, and positions marked "doubtful," that may lay in or near your track.

At St. Helena, you will leave letters informing me of your proceedings, and you will lose no time in making your way to your final port of destination, as it is all-important you should reach the United States at as early a day as possible.

On dropping your anchor in New York Bay, you will pay to each of your crew ten dollars, and suffer them to leave the vessel at once, as their time will have expired; and retain only as many as will volunteer to take charge of the brig.

In the event of my arriving before you, orders will meet you for the disposition of the journals, &c., of which you will take particular care,