

extra provisions, &c., which must be sent from this country, specifying the place to which they shall be sent, and the dates.

All specimens which you may have to send, or which Professor Thomson may desire to send, are to be carefully packed and sent by safe opportunities addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and marked, Natural History Collection for Hydrographical Department.

The Commanders in chief on the different stations through which you may pass will be instructed to afford you any assistance that you may require, and not to divert you from the special service on which you are employed. It will be your duty, therefore, to communicate with each of these officers as you may arrive within the limits of their respective commands.

Their Lordships have provided that in the event of any unforeseen circumstances depriving the expedition of the services of Professor Wyville Thomson, the Scientific Staff are to conduct their researches under your own immediate direction, and it only remains for me now to express the entire confidence which I feel in your judgment and ability to carry out this great and important work which has been entrusted conjointly to yourself and Professor Thomson, and thus to add to the favourable reputation which you have already earned for yourself as an able and intelligent naval surveyor.

GEORGE HENRY RICHARDS, *Hydrographer*.

*Admiralty Instructions to Professor C. Wyville Thomson.*

ADMIRALTY, 3rd December 1872.

SIR,—With reference to my letter of the 1st October, acquainting you that the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty had appointed you Director of the Scientific Civilian Staff, in the Expedition about to leave England in H.M.S. "Challenger," on a voyage of scientific research, and that further instructions would be furnished to you prior to your departure; I am now directed to inform you that at their Lordships' request a memorandum, of which a copy is enclosed, has been prepared by the President and Council of the Royal Society, setting forth the principal scientific objects of the Expedition, and recommending the order and conditions under which they should be carried out; and it is their Lordships' desire, that so far as circumstances will admit, the suggestions contained in this memorandum, should be followed during the course of the voyage.

2. The General Instructions for the conduct of the Expedition are furnished by their Lordships to Captain Nares, the officer in command, as well as detailed Hydrographical Memoranda, prepared by the Hydrographer, under their Lordships' instructions; and Captain Nares has been directed to communicate freely with you on all matters connected with the scientific objects of the Expedition, and as far as possible to meet your views and wishes in connection with them; and their Lordships feel assured that you will co-operate and act in concert with him, with the view, as far as possible, to secure the success of an enterprise which it is hoped will be attended with important results in the various branches of science which it is intended to investigate.

3. It is to be understood that all natural history or other collections, and all scientific journals or other data, are to be considered as primarily the property of the Government, the former to be ultimately deposited in the National Museum, or as may be otherwise decided on,—the latter for publication in a connected form should the Government on the return of the Expedition so determine; but as it may be desirable during the progress of the voyage, that any new discoveries should be at once made known in the interests of science, their Lordships will leave to your judgment, the time and method of accomplishing this object, and of communicating such scientific information as you may judge fitting, to the Royal Society, or to other learned Societies of the United Kingdom;—it being understood that such communications are to be made through their Lordships.

4. The Natural History specimens which you may consider it desirable to send to England from time to time, will, at your request, be forwarded in the usual way by the officer in command, as safe opportunities occur, addressed to the Secretary of the Admiralty, and accompanied by a recommendation from yourself as to their temporary disposal.