

a safe conveyance to England, you are to avail yourself of it to send home any despatches you may have, accompanied by journals, charts, drawings, &c., and such specimens of natural history as may have been collected. And you will, on each of your visits to Owhyhee, deliver to his Majesty's consul at that place duplicates of all your previous collections and documents, to be transmitted by him, by the first safe opportunity, to England.

“ In the event of England becoming involved in hostilities with any other power during your absence, you are, nevertheless, clearly to understand that you are not on any account to commit any hostile act whatsoever; the vessel you command being sent out only for the purpose of discovery and science, and it being the practice of all civilized nations to consider vessels so employed as excluded from the operations of war: and, confiding in this general feeling, we should trust that you would receive every assistance from the ships or subjects of any foreign power which you may fall in with.

“ On your return home you will proceed to Spithead, informing our secretary of your arrival.

“ Given under our hands, the 11th of May, 1825.

“ MELVILLE.  
WM. JOHNSTONE HOPE.  
G. COCKBURN.  
G. CLERK.  
W. R. K. DOUGLAS.

“ To Frederick William Beechey, Esq.  
Commander of his Majesty's Sloop Blossom, at Spithead.

“ By command of their lordships.

“ J. W. CROKER.”