

Behring's Straits, they were to proceed to Kamtschatka, and forward duplicates of all their journals, through the hands of the Russian Governor, to St. Petersburg, to be conveyed from thence to London. The expedition was then directed to proceed to the Sandwich Islands, or to Canton, there to refit, and then lose no time in returning to England. They were enjoined to cultivate a good understanding with any Esquimaux or Indians they might fall in with, and it was left to Lieutenant Parry's judgment, when on the spot, to decide upon the propriety of wintering on the coast of America, to follow up any expectations or hopes of success next season, or to return to England, to report the result of his observations. Minute directions were given as to the observations to be made by the various valuable philosophical instruments on board; and though the finding a passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific was the main object of the expedition, yet the ascertaining many points of natural history, geography, &c., was considered a most important object, never to be lost sight of. After they had passed the latitude of  $65^{\circ}$  north, they were from time to time to throw overboard a bottle, closely sealed, containing a paper, stating the date and position at which it was launched. Whenever they landed on the northern coast of North America, they were to erect a pole, having a flag, and bury a bottle at the foot of it, containing an abstract of