

outline of the shores are sketched in as faithfully as circumstances will admit, and to ensure their recognition by future explorers. In the determination of the astronomical position of the principal points, no doubts should be permitted to exist as to the fidelity of the results that may be arrived at, so as to ensure confidence and respect.

26. Further, as the object of the expedition is for the advancement of science and natural knowledge, the memoranda furnished by the Royal and Royal Geographical Societies of London, at the request of the Admiralty, are supplied for your guidance. The most approved instruments have been furnished to you for the purpose of pursuing research in the several branches of physical science, and as certain of your officers have been specially instructed in the modes of observing, you will take care to give them every fair opportunity of adding their contributions thereto.

27. You will also receive assistance from the two gentlemen who have been appointed as naturalists to the expedition; and every reasonable facility should be given for the collection and preservation of such specimens of the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms as can be conveniently stowed on board the ship. These specimens are to be considered the property of Her Majesty's Government and to be at their disposal.

28. In case of any irreparable accident happening to one of the ships, the officers and crew of the disabled vessel are to be removed to the other, and such arrangements must be made as appear to you to be the most expedient and conducive to the objects of the expedition.

29. In the event of the "Alert" being the ship disabled, my Lords hereby authorize you to take command of the "Discovery," and in the event of any fatal accident happening to yourself, Captain Stephenson is hereby authorized to take command of the "Alert," placing the officer next in seniority in command of the "Discovery." Also, in the event of your own inability by sickness or otherwise at any period of this service, to continue to carry these instructions into execution, you are to transfer them to the officer the next in seniority to you employed in the expedition, who is hereby required by their Lordships to execute them in the best manner practicable for the attainment of the objects in view.

30. Every available opportunity is to be taken to communicate your proceedings to me for their Lordships' information.

31. On your arrival in England you are forthwith to repair to the Admiralty, to lay before their Lordships a full account of your proceedings, having previously received from the officers and all other persons in the expedition the journals or memoranda they may have kept, and the charts, drawings, and observations which they may have made. Such of these journals and documents as may be of an unofficial character will be returned to the writers when no longer required for the public requirements of the expedition.

32. In conclusion, my Lords desire me to state, that having full confidence in your judgment and discretion, and being aware that you are already familiar with Arctic service, they do not deem it necessary to furnish you with more definite instructions than are embraced in the foregoing. With the ample means at your command, you are at liberty to vary the detail according to circumstances, but the main points herein laid down for your guidance should be kept in view, all other objects being subordinate to them.

Captain George S. Nares, R.N.
H.M.S. "Alert," Portsmouth.

I am, &c.
ROBERT HALL.

SIR,

Admiralty, 25th May 1875.

My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having been pleased to select you as second in command of the Special Expedition which has been fitted out for Arctic exploration, and having appointed you to the command of Her Majesty's ship "Discovery," I am commanded by their Lordships to signify their direction to you to place yourself under the orders of Captain G. S. Nares, of H.M.S. "Alert," who has been entrusted with the command of the expedition, and to follow his directions for your further proceedings.

2. A copy of the instructions given to Captain Nares is herewith transmitted for your information and guidance.

Captain Henry F. Stephenson, R.N.,
H.M.S. "Discovery," Portsmouth.

I am, &c.
ROBERT HALL.