

(additional of the "Asia") should be retained for service in the "Plover," of which I trust their Lordships will approve.

On the "Herald" proceeding to the northward, in the spring of next year, to communicate again with the "Plover," Lieutenant Pullen shall be sent to join his proper ship, and Lieutenant Lee will return to the Asia; in the meantime I have directed Lieutenant Pullen to proceed to join the "Asia" as a supernumerary.

H. G. Ward, Esq., M. P.,
Secretary of the Admiralty.

I have, &c.
(signed) *P. Hornby*,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

III.
Expedition to
Behring's Straits.

P. S.—As twelve months must elapse before the arrangement referred to in the last paragraph can be carried into effect, their Lordships may see fit to direct that Lieutenant Pullen should be sent to England, or otherwise disposed of.

P. H.

— No. 9. —

Her Majesty's Brig "Plover," Falklands, 12 May 1848;
Arrived 8 May.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to report to you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, I sailed in Her Majesty's brig under my command, from Madeira, on the morning of the 18th February (with a fresh trade wind), after completing water and getting fresh rates for my chronometers. This wind carried me as far as lat. 6 deg. 40 min. north, and long. 20 deg. 30 min. west (4th March), when I experienced a succession of calms and light airs till the 20th, when I crossed the equator in long. 18 deg. 58 min. west. I now got the south-east trade, which lasted till the 1st April, lat. 19 deg. 7 min. south, long. 32 deg. 33 min. west, when it drew round to the north-east, with fine clear weather. I then had variable winds till the 18th of April, when a heavy gale set in from the W.N.W., which lasted 56 hours, during which time (as in a former gale) this ship proved a most excellent sea-boat.

The prevalent winds from this time, to my arrival at this place, have been from the south and south-west, blowing strong, with very heavy squalls. I was within 10 miles of this port, and driven back for a week; and I regret to say I have been obliged to carry whole topsails and top-gallant sails, when other vessels would have been under double reefs and top-gallant sails in, and then she would not move through the water more than one and six or two knots; and without I am pretty fortunate in getting easterly winds, I shall have a long passage before me. Under these considerations, I have determined to put into Valparaiso, to see the admiral; or, if not there, to touch at Lima to obtain his approval of proceeding on without going into Panama, where there is every probability of a long detention, in consequence of the prevalent light winds and calms in that bay; whereas, if I keep in the trade, I shall make my westing to enable me to fetch Behring's Straits in proper time to get into the ice. My object in communicating with the admiral is that he may acquaint the "Herald" of my intention not to call at Panama, and that I shall rendezvous at Chamisso Island, and to make the necessary arrangements to meet me there; and I trust my proceedings will meet their Lordships' approbation.

I have completed water, set up rigging, &c., and shall go to sea to-morrow morning, the 13th instant, wind and weather permitting. I have now merely to report the excellent state of health which both officers and men are in, with the exception of John Watson, gun-room steward, who has been invalided and left at this place, to be sent home by his Excellency the Governor the first opportunity.

I have, &c.
(signed) *T. E. L. Moore*,
Commander.

The Secretary of the Admiralty.