

VOYAGE

FOR THE DISCOVERY OF A

NORTH-WEST PASSAGE.

PRELIMINARY CHAPTER.

LIEUTENANT PARRY was appointed to the command of his Majesty's ship the *Hecla*, a bomb of 375 tons, on the 16th of January, 1819; and the *Griper*, gun brig, 180 tons, commissioned by Lieutenant Matthew Liddon, was at the same time directed to put herself under his orders. The object of the expedition was to attempt the discovery of a North-West Passage into the Pacific. On board Lieutenant Parry's ship was an astronomer, Captain Edward Sabine, R.N., and a competent number of officers, a Greenland master, and a Greenland mate. Every individual engaged in the expedition was to receive double the ordinary pay of his Majesty's navy. The vessels were rigged after the manner of a barque, as being the most convenient among