

have been engraved will sufficiently shew the care which has been taken in their execution.

No opportunity has been omitted of procuring and preserving specimens in the several departments of Natural History, of which a considerable collection has been made in each ship, and which will be described in their proper places in the Appendix. The necessary smallness of our establishment rendering it expedient to dispense with the appointment of a professional Naturalist, who has usually formed a part of expeditions of this nature, the sole responsibility in this department of science naturally devolved upon myself. As however I can lay no claim to any of the qualifications requisite in a naturalist, and yet have hopes that our collections will not be altogether wanting in interest, I consider it incumbent upon me, with a view to do justice to the individuals who have assisted me in this way, to give some account of the manner in which that part of my instructions has been executed.

The collections made on board each ship were purposely kept separate, with the intention of providing against accidents happening to either; except on one or two occasions, where only a single specimen of any animal was obtained, in which case it was transferred to the *Fury*. The collection of the animal kingdom formed by Captain Lyon has afforded additional interest from the drawings that accompanied them, wherein the colours most liable to fade were faithfully delineated from specimens just killed. For the specimens obtained on board the *Fury* I am necessarily indebted to the zeal and industry of the several Officers of that ship, who have at all times rendered me their best assistance in promoting this object. I must however particularly express the acknowledgments which I consider due to Mr. Ross who, from the commencement of the voyage, undertook in addition to his other