

INSTRUCTIONS
TO
CAPTAIN C. F. HALL,
COMMANDER OF THE
EXPEDITION TOWARD THE NORTH POLE
BY
HON. GEO. M. ROBESON,
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, *June 9, 1871.*

SIR: Having been appointed, by the President of the United States, commander of the expedition toward the North Pole, and the steamer *Polaris* having been fitted, equipped, provisioned, and assigned for the purpose, you are placed in command of the said vessel, her officers and crew, for the purposes of the said expedition. Having taken command, you will proceed in the vessel, at the earliest possible date, from the navy yard in this city to New York. From New York you will proceed to the first favorable port you are able to make on the west coast of Greenland, stopping, if you deem it desirable, at St. Johns, Newfoundland. From the first port made by you, on the west coast of Greenland, if farther south than Holsteinberg, you will proceed to that port, and thence to Goodhaven, (or Lively,) in the island of Disco. At some one of the ports above referred to you will probably meet a transport, sent by the Department, with additional coal and stores, from which you will supply yourself to the fullest carrying capacity of the *Polaris*. Should you fall in with the transport before making either of the ports aforesaid, or should you obtain information of her being at, or having landed her stores at any port south of the island of Disco, you will at once proceed to put yourself in communication with the commander of the transport, and supply yourself with the additional stores and coal, taking such measures as may be most expedient and convenient for that purpose. Should you not hear of the transport before reaching Holsteinberg you will remain at that port, waiting for her and