

tion. The popular opinion seems to be, that the literary attainments of British sailors seldom exceed the acquisition of some boisterous song, and that only the very erudite amongst them can succeed in scrawling a letter to their friends at home.

In the "*Aurora Borealis*," however, we find articles written by veteran tars, whose home since boyhood has been upon the sea, that would not disgrace the pages of some of our magazines. These men with frames of iron, with a courage and a stern endurance that nothing can subdue, show themselves possessed of a delicacy of imagination and a power of perception that one has great difficulty in reconciling with the honest roughness of their appearance. Some years ago an officer, high in command, gave it as his opinion, that men entirely uneducated made the best soldiers and sailors. Here, however, we find, that the men from before the mast, who contributed to the "*Aurora Borealis*," are amongst the most exemplary in Her Majesty's service.

During the long Arctic night of more than three months, the resources of the expedition were successfully used in procuring both employment and amusement for the officers and men. The time for every duty was set apart, as though day and night continued to be of the same duration as in our own climate. The Admiralty had furnished the squadron