PAPERS

RELATIVE TO THE

Recent Expeditions in Search of Sir John Franklin, &c.

I.

Orders to, and Proceedings of, Captain E. A. Inglefield, Her Majesty's Steam Vessel "Phœnix."

No. 1.

Copy of Orders to Commander IngleField, Her Majesty's Steam Sloop "Phœnix."

By the Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High Admiral of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, &c.

WHEREAS We have appointed you to the Command of Her Majesty's Ship Phonix for the purpose of proceeding to Beechey Island, in Lancaster Sound, to communicate with Sir E. Belcher, or the Ships under his commard.

2. You are hereby required and directed, so soon as the Phœnix shall be in all respects ready, and the Breadalbane Transport, which is to accompany you, shall be loaded with coals and other stores, to proceed to sea, and to make the best of your way to the beforementioned Island. In the execution of this service you will use your utmost exertion to expedite your passage, and afford every aid and assistance to the Transports, so as to reach Beechey Island at the earliest possible period.

3. We have also ordered the Diligence Dock Yard Transport to be loaded with coal to accompany you to the Island of Disco, or any other place which you may consider most convenient, and we have added 10 men to the establishment of the Phœnix for the purpose of forming her crew. On arrival at Disco, or at such other place, you will replenish your coal from her, and shift her crew (except one or two men,) to the Breadalbanc, and leave the Diligence at that place until your return, or otherwise act, as the circumstances of the case may require.

4. The most essential duty on your arrival at Beechey Island will be at once to clear the Transport of the coals and stores; no delay whatever is to take place in effecting this, and relays of men are to be employed; the stores are to be landed on the Island or to be put on board the North Star, as may be considered most advisable, according to the circumstances of the case. On the Transport being cleared, she is, without a moment's delay, to be directed to proceed to England, and your most especial duty, or that of the senior officer present, will be to carry out these orders.

5. Part of the stores on board the Phænix may also be landed, or placed on board the North Star, except what may be required for the return passage to England, and having obtained all possible information from Sir E. Belcher, or the Senior Officer at Beechey Island, with reference to the expeditions and the discoveries which may have been made, and exchanged any officers or men whose state of health may render it necessary that they should return to England, you are immediately to proceed to sea, and to return to Woolwich with all possible dispatch, taking the utmost care that your delay at Beechey Island be not extended to such a period as may risk the ship being frozen in for the winter.