

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATE.

SUMMER VIEW.

No. 1.—*Remarkable Appearance of the Sky.*

This splendid arch of crimson light is a phenomenon peculiar to the Arctic Regions, and always appears in a direction opposite to the sun.

No. 2.—*Enormous Iceberg.*

The vessels were secured to this enormous berg by hawsers and ice-anchors, and were constantly in the most perilous situations, in danger of being nipped by the vast masses floating about, or of being crushed by the overturning of the bergs,—a circumstance of frequent occurrence, involving very great danger. During the night (which was a very fine one) that the ships were moored to this berg, the awful silence that prevailed was several times broken by the overturning of bergs, and the fearful crash occasioned by masses of ice detached from the glacier falling into the sea.

No. 3.—*“Investigator.”*

A vessel extremely well fitted for the service. She was built at Greenock, and launched January, 1848; she was then towed to the Thames, and strengthened at Green's yard at Blackwall, under the inspection of Mr. Rice, a gentleman from Plymouth, who had superintended the equipment of former expeditions. The “Investigator” is 340 tons burden, 118 feet in length, 28 feet beam, 6 feet in height on the mess deck, and draws 15 feet water. She is barque-rigged, and is protected from any violent pressure of the ice, by solid sponsons, or chocks, projecting about three feet; and about the bows, by a sheeting of plate iron. Her figure-head represents the head and shoulders of a walrus. On each side are fitted three pairs of wooden davits, to which were hoisted two cutters of 25 feet length, three whale-boats, and a dingy; over the stern was the captain's gig, and on board, between the fore and main masts, was stowed the pinnacle—a boat, 31 feet in length, 10 broad, and of 10 tons burden, fitted with a ten-horse power locomotive engine. Internally she was in every way similarly fitted as the “Enterprise.” She was commanded by Capt. Bird; and the crew consisted of 15 officers, 18 petty officers, carpenters, 22 able seamen, 3 stewards, and a sergeant, corporal, and 6 privates of the Woolwich division; in all, 67 persons, of which number three seamen died during the winter.