

on joining the service :—" All specimens collected and all journals kept by you are to be placed, in the first instance, at the disposal of the Committee, as materials from which to prepare an official Account of the Expedition; nor until this is completed are any private notes or Journals to be published. But, when completed, all your Journals and papers, and one half of all the specimens collected, (the division to take place by mutual agreement,—or, failing such agreement, by two referees, one to be chosen by each party,) are to be returned to you, and become your exclusive property."

So far, however, from fulfilling this part of the contract, the Arctic Land Committee did not until some time after the publication of Captain Back's Narrative return my journal to me, and I have not yet succeeded in obtaining many of my papers and valuable specimens.

LONDON,  
NOVEMBER 2, 1836.