

aid of the Government, granted to the Committee of the Royal Society, and now dedicated to the public use.

I now respectfully present the narrative of the cruise of the *Challenger* to my readers, in the hope that, while affording information and instruction, it will prove of sufficient interest to reward its perusal with some pleasantly passed hours.

WILLIAM J. J. SPRY.

DEVONPORT,

*December* 1876.