

“The President and Council of the Royal Society therefore recommend as a fit and proper person, to superintend and be at the head of the Civilian Scientific Staff of the Expedition, Wyville Thomson, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., Regius Professor of Natural History in the University of Edinburgh; and that, as Professor Thomson will have to give up his position, with its emoluments, at Edinburgh for the time he is absent, the President and Council are of opinion that a less sum than £1000 per annum cannot properly be offered to him.

“They propose that the other members of the Staff and their Salaries should be as follows:—

Mr. John James Wild, as Secretary to the Director and Artist,	. . . . .	£400
Mr. John Young Buchanan, M.A. (Glas.), Principal Laboratory Assistant in the University of Edinburgh, as Chemist and Physicist,	. . . . .	200
Mr. Henry Nottidge Moseley, B.A. (Oxon.), Radcliffe Travelling Fellow of Oxford University, as Naturalist,	. . . . .	200
Mr. William Stirling, D.Sc. (Edin.), M.B., Falconer Fellow of the University of Edinburgh, as Naturalist, <sup>1</sup>	. . . . .	200
Mr. John Murray, as Naturalist,	. . . . .	200

“The Committee further report that Professor Wyville Thomson informed them that he had gone with Admiral Richards to Sheerness to examine the Challenger, and that the arrangements appeared to be satisfactory in every respect.”

Resolved,—That the Report of the Circumnavigation Committee be adopted, and that a communication be made to the Admiralty in terms of their recommendation.

*November 14th, 1872.*

The Council proceeded to consider the Report of the Circumnavigation Committee. The following is the Letter from the Admiralty to which the Report refers:—

“ADMIRALTY, *August 22nd, 1872.*

“Sir,—With reference to my letter of the 6th instant, and to previous correspondence on the subject of the intended deep-sea exploratory Expedition, I am commanded by My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you that H.M.S. Challenger will probably be ready to leave this country about the end of November; and their Lordships will be glad to learn what are the precise objects of research which the President and Council of the Royal Society have in view, and in what particular portions of the Ocean such investigations may, in their opinion, be carried out with the greatest advantage to science and the best probability of success.

“2. The object of their Lordships is to frame their instructions to the Officer in command of the Challenger, so far as may be possible, to meet the recommendations of the President and Council of the Royal Society.

“I am, Sir,

“Your obedient Servant,

“VERNON LUSHINGTON.”

“*W. Sharpey, Esq., M.D., &c.*

“*Secretary of the Royal Society, Burlington House.*”

The Report having been considered, was adopted as follows:—

The Circumnavigation Committee have had before them the Letter from the Admiralty to the Royal Society, dated August 22, 1872, and as the Council were not in Session and the matter was pressing, they have thought it best to treat the letter as having been referred to them by the Council. They beg leave to recommend to the Council that an answer be returned to the Admiralty to the following effect:—

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Stirling resigned his appointment before the departure of the Expedition (see p. 33).