

APPENDIX A.

Official Documents and Official Accounts of Preliminary Proceedings in connection with the Explorations in H.M. Surveying-vessel 'Porcupine,' during the Summer of 1869.—Extracts from the Minutes of the Council of the Royal Society, setting forth the origin of the 'Porcupine' Expedition, and the objects which it was designed to carry out:—

January 21, 1869.

The Preliminary Report of the Dredging Operations conducted by Drs. Carpenter and Wyville Thomson (in the 'Lightning') having been considered, it was

Resolved,—That, looking to the valuable results obtained from these Marine Researches, restricted in scope as they have been in a first trial, the President and Council consider it most desirable, with a view to the advancement of Zoology and other branches of science, that the exploration should be renewed in the course of the ensuing summer, and carried over a wider area; and that the aid of Her Majesty's Government, so liberally afforded last year, be again requested in furtherance of the undertaking.

Resolved,—That a Committee be appointed to report to the Council on the measures it will be advisable to take in order to carry the foregoing resolution most advantageously into effect. The Committee to consist of the President and Officers, with Dr. Carpenter, Mr. Gwyn Jeffreys, and Captain Richards.

February 18, 1869.

Read the following Report of the Committee on Marine Researches:—