

Lewis should then be worked in the like careful manner; and as the 'cold area' would here be encountered, special attention should be given to the determination of its boundaries, and of the sources of its climatic peculiarity. These would probably require the extension of the survey for some distance in a N.E. direction, which would carry the vessel into the neighbourhood of the Shetland Isles; and Lerwick would then be a suitable port for supplies. Whatever time might then remain would be advantageously employed in dredging at such a distance round the Shetlands as would give depths of from 250 to 400 fathoms, Mr. Gwyn Jeffreys' dredgings in that locality having been limited to 200 fathoms.

"The Natural-History work of such an Expedition should be prosecuted under the direction of a Chief (who need not, however, be the same throughout), aided by two competent Assistants (to be provided by the Royal Society), who should be engaged for the whole Cruise. Mr. Gwyn Jeffreys is ready to take charge of it during the first five or six weeks, say, to the end of June, when Professor Wyville Thomson would be prepared to take his place; and Dr. Carpenter would be able to join the Expedition early in August, remaining with it to the end. It would be a great advantage if the Surgeon appointed to the Ship should have sufficient knowledge of Natural History, and sufficient interest in the inquiry, to participate in the work.

"The experience of the previous Expedition will furnish adequate guidance as to the appliances which it would be necessary to ask the Government to provide, in case they accede to the present application.

"With reference to the Scientific instruments and apparatus to be provided by the Royal Society, the Committee recommend that the detailed consideration of them be referred to a Special Committee, consisting of gentlemen practically conversant with the construction and working of such instruments."

Resolved,—That the Report now read be received and adopted, and that application be made to Her Majesty's Government accordingly.