

The pocket chronometers were kept in a small tray separate from the box chronometers, so that when they were required for shore observations they might be taken out of the chronometer room without disturbing the box chronometers. The tray in which they were placed rested on a solid block of fir secured to a beam.

Of the sixteen chronometers originally supplied at Sheerness one stopped before leaving England, and was replaced at Portsmouth; one stopped in August 1873, and was replaced at the Cape of Good Hope; and one stopped in December 1875; the rest were brought home in good condition, with the exception of one pocket chronometer which was injured in consequence of the sight-boat having been capsized in the surf at Fernando Noronha.

Directly they were received, letters were given to the chronometers, which were afterwards only known by those letters, so that there could be no prejudice in favour of any particular maker.

The following table shows the chronometers supplied, and the letters by which they were distinguished on board, &c. :—

LIST OF CHRONOMETERS IN H.M.S. CHALLENGER.

Makers' Names.	No. of Chronometer.	When received.	From whom received.	Distinguishing letter on board.	How disposed of.
Molyneux,	2110	Nov. 22d 1872.	Greenwich Observatory.	Z	Returned to England, August 1873, (stopped).
Dent,	1763	Do.	Do.	A	Returned at Sheerness on paying off, June 1876.
Hewitt,	2553	Do.	Do.	B	Do.
Carter,	197	Do.	Do.	C	Do.
Park & Bonts,	801	Do.	Do.	D	Do.
Pennington,	241	Do.	Do.	E	Do.
Cotterell,	1772	Do.	Do.	F	Do.
Arnold & Dent,	742	Do.	Do.	G	Do.
Pennington,	1512	Do.	Do.	H	Do.
C. Frodsham,	1765	Do.	Do.	J	Do.
M'Cube,	166	Do.	Do.	K	Do.
Muston,	658	Do.	Do.	L	Returned to Portsmouth Observatory, Dec. 14, 1872 (stopped).
Lister & Sons,	608	Dec. 14th 1872.	Portsmouth Observatory.	L	Returned at Sheerness on paying off, June 1876.
R. & H. Molyneux,	1948	Nov. 20th 1873.	C. of G. Hope Observatory.	M	Do.
Molyneux,	5778	Nov. 22d 1872.	Greenwich Observatory.	M	Returned to England, Sept. 1873.
Arnold,	6221	Do.	Do.	N	Returned at Sheerness on paying off, June 1876.
Parkinson and Frodsham,	701	Do.	Do.	O	Do.
Molyneux,	706	Do.	Do.	P	Do.
Pennington (Deck),	1299	Do.	Do.	Q	Do.

With these chronometers a regular chain of meridian distances was carried on from the date of leaving England to the date of the return of the Expedition, the chronometers being rated at each place of observation, except when the stay was too short to permit of doing so. For this purpose equal altitudes were in all cases obtained when practicable;