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Cover illustration: The suspended Nairne and Blunt dip circle, at left, was carried by Constantine John Phipps on his voyage to the Arctic in 1773 (see Morrison and Barko pp. 1–19). Historical records indicate that it was built to specifications of the Rev. John Michell. Ledru’s biography in the 1810 and later editions of Dictionnaire universel, historique, critique et bibliographique contrarily identifies the instrument as being built to Ledru’s design. The suspended Nairne dip circle, at right, was one of two carried in James Cook’s Resolution, on his third voyage of exploration, and later on the Lapérouse expedition, most likely on the Boussole. These engravings are of actual instruments discussed in ‘The Lapérouse Expedition and Geomagetism’ in this issue, and extracted from Phipps’s expedition journal and from William Bayly’s observation journal of Cook’s third voyage a copy of which is in the collections of the authors.