

and Sabuyan ; on the south-west and south by Panay ; and on the south-east and east by Pulanduta Point, in Masbate. As this, which we may call for convenience the Panay Sea, seemed likely to be one of the inclosed basins, presenting peculiarities in the distribution of temperature, we stopped to take serial soundings and to dredge. From a depth of 150 fathoms, to the bottom at 700 fathoms, the temperature was 51.7° Fahr.; while at the surface it was 80° Fahr. The other temperatures obtained were about intermediate between those in the China Seas on the one side and the Zebu Sea on the other, leaving it uncertain whether the cleft in the barrier, to the depth of 150 fathoms, is between Tablas and Panay or between Romplon and Sabuyan.

Early on the morning of the 18th we were close under the east coast of the island of Zebu, apparently the finest of the Philippines, and we steamed along the coast all the forenoon. A ridge of hills with a rugged crest rises almost from the shore, and behind this there is a second and somewhat higher range. The first range is cleared nearly to the top, and above the clearings there is a belt of trees running to the ridge and fringing it against the sky or against the foliage of the more distant range. Where glimpses can be had into the valleys as we pass, it seems to be well cultivated. The sugar-cane give, as usual, the brightest green patches, and the lower slopes are covered with groves of the Manilla hemp.