

Leaving the Admiralty Islands on the 10th March, a course was shaped for Yokohama, with the intention of reaching Guam, one of the Ladrone Islands. We lost the trades in lat. 17° north, and after that had a succession of easterly, north-easterly, and baffling winds, from every point of the compass except where it was wanted, thus preventing our visiting either the Carolines or Ladrone, which were passed some 100 miles to leeward. On the 23rd March, in lat. $11^{\circ} 24'$ north, and long. $143^{\circ} 16'$ east, bottom was touched at 4475 fathoms, the deepest successful sounding made during the whole cruise. Specimens from that depth showed a dark volcanic sand, mixed with manganese. In consequence of the enormous pressure at that depth (some five tons on the square inch) most of the thermometers were crushed. However, one stood the test, and showed a temperature of 33.9° , the surface temperature being 80° . Three other attempts were made to determine the temperature of water at these great depths, but in every instance the instruments came to the surface in a damaged condition.

We were clear of the Tropics on the 1st April, but in consequence of the continued light winds, and repeated soundings and dredgings, the thirty-two days at sea passed somewhat wearily and monotonously. Three months from Hong Kong; but the longest voyage, like the longest lane, must come to an end at last.