

the Uraga Channel (where a day was spent in sounding and dredging in 350 fathoms, with very satisfactory results), and getting clear of the coast, there was every indication of squally weather; and soon after we came in for the full force of the north-west monsoon, which with squalls, drenching rain, and a rough and turbulent sea, made the passage very unpleasant.

Our utmost endeavours were used to get round Siwo Misaki, but it seemed almost hopeless attempting to steam against the strong wind and heavy seas. Eventually it was decided to run into the well-sheltered harbour of Oosima. The weather, as soon as we were sheltered under the land, brightened up; and the entrance was not devoid of beauty, as island after island came into view. We passed a peculiar cluster of rocks forming a portion of the harbour at the south-east entrance of the Kii Channel, the Japanese name of which is Ishi Bashi, or Stone Bridge. Two pretty little fishing villages (Hasingui and Kusimota) are here situated, lying at the foot of a range of hills.

During the night the weather moderated, and early the next day we left the anchorage, steamed round the extreme south point of Nipon (Siwo Misaki), and entered the Kii Channel. It was a clear and beautiful morning, but a mist lay along the horizon, which, however, as the day advanced, cleared, and at length the high land of the coast was