

Minister) and Lady Parkes, many of the American, French, and Japanese naval officers, accepted invitations to take a trip for a few miles in the Bay of Yedo, for the purpose of witnessing the operations of sounding, dredging, and trawling for specimens of marine zoology.

The weather at first was most unfavourable (wind and heavy rain). However, it eventually cleared, and a large party of ladies were amongst the number of visitors. About noon we steamed out from the anchorage, and when an offing of some four or five miles had been gained, preparations were made for the first operation, which was sounding. The depth was found to be 120 fathoms. The trawl was lowered. The processes were watched with seemingly great interest by the guests on board, and after a short interval had elapsed, the trawl was drawn up by the deck engine. The anxious crowd gathered on the bridge, and as fathom after fathom of the line came in, the eager throng held their breath in expectation of what was coming. They were, however, not kept long in suspense. First appeared the shackle, then the trawl itself, with a few specimens of life from the bottom, including fish of various kinds, shells, stones, and mud. Water-bottles were lowered, and specimens obtained from various depths. The mode of taking serial temperatures was illustrated.

After this lively scene, in which the different