

Islands a nearly straight course was made for the south part of Nipon Island. Had the winds been favourable, the Expedition would have proceeded east as far as Greenwich Island, and from thence sailed to Hogolu in the Caroline group, thence to Guam in the Ladrões, and afterwards to Yokohama, but the investigation of those interesting places had to be abandoned.

On the 6th February, at daylight, in lat. $6^{\circ} 38' N.$, long. $122^{\circ} 38' E.$, the ship was again swung for the errors of the compass. This additional swinging was rendered necessary in consequence of the pinnacle's boiler having been shifted from the quarter deck to the forecastle. At 8 A.M. this operation was completed and sail was made to the eastward, the wind being light and variable.

On the 8th February the ship sounded and trawled in 2050 fathoms in the Celebes Sea in lat. $5^{\circ} 47' N.$, and long. $124^{\circ} 1' E.$ (see Sheet 31), and at 7 P.M. proceeded under easy steam towards the Sarangani Islands.

On the 9th February, at 5 A.M., the Sarangani Islands were sighted, and the ship was steered to pass between them and the island of Mindanao, and as it soon became evident that the chart of this neighbourhood was incorrect, a running survey of the islands and channel was made.

Balat Island has a rounded top 2350 feet high in lat. $5^{\circ} 28' N.$, long. $125^{\circ} 23\frac{1}{2}' E.$ In shape it is an irregular quadrangle $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length E.N.E. and W.S.W., and about 3 miles in breadth; off its southwest end is a rock about 40 feet high.

Sarangani Island lies in a north and south direction to the eastward of Balat Island, leaving a channel $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in width between the two islands which appears to be navigable, as Captain Waterman of the "Volunteer" passed through it and reported a shoal running out from one of its sides.¹ Sarangani is $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length and 2 in breadth. Its top, which is comparatively level, is about 500 feet above the level of the sea. Its coast line appeared irregular on the western side, so much so as to cause it to be believed that small bays or coves might there exist in which anchorage could be found. The north part of Sarangani is in lat. $5^{\circ} 33' N.$, long. $125^{\circ} 29' E.$

Lanibal Island is a small flat cay with trees on it, 60 feet in height, 1 mile N.E. by N. from the north point of Sarangani Island; it is surrounded by a coral reef, between which and that fringing the north point of Sarangani is a narrow channel which appeared navigable.

The southern peninsula of Mindanao is high and has several remarkable peaks on it. The southern hill, 1670 feet high, which is really round-topped, looks somewhat like a pyramid on an E.S.E. or W.N.W. bearing; its summit is in lat. $5^{\circ} 39' N.$, long. $125^{\circ} 21' E.$ Seven miles N.N.E. of this round-topped hill is a saddle peak 3600 feet above the level of the sea, the summit of which is in lat. $5^{\circ} 46' N.$, long. $125^{\circ} 24' E.$, and 8 miles northeast from this saddle mountain there is a high range, the highest peak of which, 4530 feet, has a conical top when viewed from the southward, and is in lat. $5^{\circ} 51\frac{1}{2}' N.$, long. $125^{\circ} 30' E.$

Cape Sarangani is a bluff point in lat. $5^{\circ} 34' N.$, long. $125^{\circ} 21' E.$ From it the coast on the west side trends N.W. by W. 3 miles, and on the other side east for 2 miles, after which it turns to E.N.E., and afterwards to N.E. by N., the coast becoming low. A coral reef fringes the shore.

¹ Horsburgh's Directory, 8th ed., vol. ii. p. 563, footnote.