

you will carefully examine, and note particularly the currents, and if there are any harbours there, supplies, &c. Next proceed to the De Peyster Group, which joins them, and likewise examine them fully. There are a few islands off to the westward, said to have been seen: if chance offers, you will sight them. Thence to the Kingsmill Group, which you will explore. The charts of Duperrey are furnished you, likewise a manuscript chart of the Carolines, &c. You will follow the trend of the islands, keeping your position at night, and following up your surveys to the northward as far as the Pescadores, which group you will examine and survey. Many new islands will be fallen in with hereabouts.

Thence to Strong's Island and Ascension. At the two latter, refreshments can be had in abundance. It is desirable that you should follow out this group as far as longitude 150° E., and then return by the Pescadores, which will afford you an opportunity of picking up any islands you may have missed in your track eastward. From the Pescadores, you will proceed towards the north, along the range of islands, Gaspar Rico, &c., for the Columbia river, where your arrival will be looked for from the 15th of April to the 1st of May: it must not be later than the latter date. You will enter the river, and anchor in Baker's Bay, should you not hear from me prior to that time, where you will await my arrival.

During your cruise, you will be particular in observing the dip, intensity, and variation, daily, if possible, either at sea or on shore, and trying the currents as often as possible, measuring the meridian distances between place and place, or island and island, by your chronometers, and observing equal and circummeridian altitudes for latitude. The harbour of Apia is in longitude $171^{\circ} 41' 09.12''$ W. You will measure its meridian distance from this port in longitude $157^{\circ} 50' 12''$ W., latitude $21^{\circ} 19' N.$

I am, &c.,

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

CAPTAIN WM. L. HUDSON,
U. S. Ship Peacock.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
Harbour of Honolulu, December 1st, 1840.

SIR,—

On your arrival at Upolu, you will endeavour again to capture the chief Opotuno; and you will also obtain ample justice for the late murder of an American seamen on that island. The papers relating