

waters, called on the map "Pitt River." From this position and others you will get a view of the different mountains, particularly the Shaste Peak, the most southern one in the territory of Oregon.

Your attention, besides being directed to the rivers, will embrace as much of the surrounding country as possible, in order to afford the fullest information relative thereto, including soil, timber, &c.

On your arrival at the anchorage off Molate, you will select a place, with Lieutenant Carr, for the observatory; and he will superintend the landing and putting up of the transit for observations of moon culminating stars, and the rating of the chronometers. The magnetic instrument of Gauss, and likewise the meteorological instruments, will be put up, that the usual and regular observations may go forward.

The preserved meats and cranberries on board the Vincennes are not to be used except for the sick, and no grog is to be served to the crews of boats on surveying duty; but they must be regularly supplied with their rations.

The crews of boats on surveying excursions will have their allowance of beef and pork increased one-half.

The five boats that accompany you will be placed under charge of Lieutenants Alden and Budd, Passed Midshipman Sandford, and Midshipmen Hammersly and Elliott; and the launch, under charge of Mr. Williamson, will also be taken to carry provisions and tents.

Observations for chronometers and equal altitudes will be taken the day of your arrival, if possible, together with circummeridian observations, and transit bearings obtained, to ascertain the accuracy of Beechey's survey, which you will apply to his chart, if two or three can be obtained at or near the same spot (by looking at the chart several meet my eye near the island of Los Alcatrazes, with it and the surrounding points and headlands); and it would be well to send an officer (Mr. Totten) there to obtain a round of angles, and at the same time get observations for time.

Dr. Pickering will accompany the expedition of boats, and Lieutenant Case, Acting Master Totten, and Passed Midshipman May, be employed plotting.

I enclose a memorandum for Lieutenant Carr, which you will hand to him when you leave the ship.

I am, &c.,

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

LIEUT. COM. C. RINGGOLD,
U. S. Brig Porpoise.