

X I.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
At Sea, Nov. 29th, 1841.

SIR,—

You will proceed to Strong's and Ascension Island, survey their harbours, obtain all the information in your power, and at the former make examinations for the wreck of the Waverley.

From thence you will pass to Manilla, through the Straits of Bernardino, where you will arrive without fail by the 10th of January, 1842.

You will run for all islands and reefs lying in your track, and obtain all the information in your power, relative to the supplies they afford; inquire into the character of the white men residing on them, and collect as many curiosities as possible.

You will be particular in your intercourse with the people of Strong's and Ascension Islands, as they are reported to be in possession of a bad set of runaway white men.

All the information you can obtain must be carefully noted.

I shall expect you to execute the duties committed to you with promptness, and I may fall in with you prior to your reaching Manilla; but this will make no difference in your operations.

At Manilla, you will await me or orders. Wishing you a pleasant cruise,

I am, &c.,

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

ACTING-MASTER S. R. KNOX,
U. S. Schooner Flying-Fish.