

On the 9th, at the request of Dr. Holmes, Dr. Fox was sent on board the Porpoise to hold a consultation.

In all these cases there was much fever, attended with constipation and a tendency to inflammation of the bowels. Until the 15th the state of the sick continued critical, but, through the perseverance, attention, and skill of Dr. Holmes, the disease was finally conquered. As the sick became convalescent, I was desirous of having them removed to the Vincennes, but the medical gentlemen were of opinion that it was not expedient to transfer them to that vessel, lest the disease might be of an infectious character.

During all this time the crew of the Vincennes enjoyed remarkably good health.

On the 12th, in latitude 25° N., longitude 160° W., we found the current setting north-northeast. By the 16th, the temperature fell to 64° , which we felt as exceedingly cold.

In proceeding to the north, I was desirous to pass over a portion of the sea that had not been examined by preceding navigators, particularly as it is confidently believed by many persons in the Hawaiian Islands, that land existed in the neighbourhood where we now were. I was, therefore, anxious to make search for it in such places as had not been explored by others, and I had procured a chart, showing the tracks of Portlock and others. This search was made as closely as time and opportunity permitted, but ineffectually. I am, however, far from satisfied that land may not exist in this quarter, for we in fact did little in the way of exploration, in consequence of the foggy and hazy weather which limited our view.

The part of the Northern Pacific which lies between the latitudes of 33° and 43° N., and longitudes of 140° and 150° W., is particularly subject to fogs and thick weather, and there are few places where indications of land are stronger: thus, numerous birds were seen, of species found only in the vicinity of land. I therefore feel satisfied that although we failed from want of sufficient time for a thorough search, land will be found at some future day within the space just defined.

On the 19th of April we had a sudden change of the wind from the southward to the northwest, accompanied with a heavy head sea. The temperature fell ten degrees within half an hour: the barometer stood at 30.20 in. On the 20th, a hawk was taken, while regaling himself upon a small land-bird. Many flocks of small birds were seen, as well as frigate-birds and quantities of villula, which gave the ocean the appearance of being covered with cinders. They were