

The eastern extremity of M'Kenzie's Group was made on the 29th, in latitude $10^{\circ} 07' 53''$ N., longitude $139^{\circ} 54' 58''$ E. To the northward and westward of it, a supposed shoal was passed over, but none was found.

M'Kenzie's Group is of greater extent than is represented on the maps. It is composed of a great many islets, with passages between them, some of them into the lagoon, through one of which the schooner entered, with not less than seven fathoms water on the bar. This group is thickly inhabited, and some of the natives boarded the schooner. They resembled the Caroline Islanders, but had their teeth much discoloured, apparently from the use of the betel-nut. From them some fish and cocoa-nuts were procured. They were seen to be in possession of iron utensils, and appeared to have before had communication with vessels.

Mr. Knox now steered for the Straits of Bernadino, and made Cape Espiritu Santo, on the night of the 4th of January. Owing to the want of observations for two days before, he was in danger of being shipwrecked. On the 11th, he had passed through the straits, and anchored under Cape St. Jago, whence he got under way, and reached Manilla, as before stated.

I now felt myself secure against farther detention, and hoped to expedite my duties, so as to reach Singapore in the time designated in my instructions.



MANILLA BANCA.