

After visiting Santa Anna on the Pasig, the mountains of Maijaijai and the volcano Ae Taal, as well as the hot springs at Bannos, the expedition sailed south for the Straits of Mindoro.

On the evening of the 21st of January the Vincennes, with the tender in company, left the bay of Manilla.

On the 22d they passed the entrance of the Straits of San Bernadino. It would have been the most direct route to follow these straits until they had passed Mindoro. Lieutenant Wilkes' object, however, was to examine the ground for the benefit of others, and the Apo Shoal, which lies about mid-channel between Palawan and Mindoro, claimed his first attention.

Calavite Peak is the north point of Mindoro. He made it two thousand feet high. This peak is of the shape of a dome, and appears remarkably regular when seen from its western side. Mindoro is a beautiful island, and is evidently volcanic; it appears as if thrown up in confused masses.

The highest peak of the island by triangulation was found to be three thousand one hundred and twenty-six feet.

From there Lieutenant Ringgold visited the Sooloo Islands, Necker Island, and, after calling at the Sandwich Islands, arrived at Singapore on the 19th of January, 1842, which they left on the 26th of February, and anchored at Table Bay, Cape of Good Hope, on the 13th of April. After calling at St. Helena, and passing the magnetic equator on May 9th, the Vincennes with Lieutenant Wilkes on board arrived off Sandy Hook on the 10th of June, 1842.

The Porpoise and Oregon had, in the meantime, proceeded to Rio Janeiro, where they executed their instructions, and having obtained the necessary supplies sailed for the United States. After leaving the equator their route differed but little from that pursued by the Vincennes. They arrived at New York on the 30th of June, 1842.