

good-bye and a pleasant cruise, at noon a move was made from the anchorage, the bands in the various vessels playing the farewell tunes, for there were a goodly number in port of English, French, Russian, Austrian, and Prussian nationalities.

And now farewell to China, as we steam out through the Lye-moon Pass, and long before night-fall the long, low coast was out of sight.

The passage from Hong Kong to Manilla was, as is usual at this time of the year, a most disagreeable one. On the morning of the 8th January the wind fell somewhat, and soundings were obtained, showing a depth of 2100 fathoms, with a bottom of pale grey ooze. A series of temperatures was taken at intervals of 50 fathoms down to 400 fathoms, and 100 fathoms down to 1000 fathoms.

This station was just about the middle of the China Sea, so that the serial observations were somewhat interesting. At 900 fathoms the temperature was 36° Fahr., and this was maintained to the bottom; so that a layer of water 1200 fathoms in thickness, at a uniform temperature of 36° , occupies the basin of the China Sea. From these results I believe the conclusion arrived at was that this sea is cut off by a barrier, which rises to a height of between 800 and 900 fathoms below the surface, and so is prevented from communicating with the Antarctic basin.

On the morning of the 10th the weather had