

the last stopping-place, where the natives concluded to halt for the night. The occupants, who consisted of two elderly women and a young man, were dispossessed, and the shed was enclosed by hanging up leaves of the *Heliconia*, which resemble those of the banana. They then prepared some excellent cocoa-nut pudding, and heated some cocoa-nut milk in the shells. This beverage is usually taken by them every morning and evening; the natives all saying grace before their meal, and prayers before they went to rest. It was late the next morning before Dr. Pickering could get the party in motion, and pursuing their route, they soon overtook the Lord of the Forest, who had preceded them, and was employed in cutting a path through the woods, although that already made might have been easily passed through. No inducement could make them change their purpose, and they continued to work at their turnpike, lopping off large branches, beating down ferns, &c. After some time, they reached a rising ground, which they found to be on one side of a crater, about a thousand feet above the sea, and seven miles inland.

Dr. Pickering now concluded that it was a hopeless task to attempt to penetrate into the interior with such guides, and determined to return, which he accordingly did. He found the rest of his party a mile in advance of their previous encampment, where they had built for themselves a fine house, and each man had collected two large baskets of yams for provisions. This was their stopping-place for the night, and among other cares for the Doctor's comfort, they constructed for him a native pillow, formed of a piece of bamboo, with legs lashed to it about three inches high.

The natives were in high spirits during the evening, talking and laughing immoderately. They succeeded in getting off by nine o'clock the next day, and reached the coast about noon.

During the stay of Dr. Pickering and Lieutenant Maury on this island, they were objects of great curiosity; and whenever they walked out they were followed, not only by boys, but grown men, who did not, however, offer to molest them in any way. When they passed through the villages, all the inhabitants, not excepting the scholars from the schools, came out to look at them. The latter, however, did not abandon their books, but retained them in their hands; for all, whether young, middle-aged, or old, are anxious to learn, and their perseverance, as in other parts of the group, is astonishing.

Dr. Pickering here witnessed the taking of fish in a different mode from that practised on the other islands. Application was made to the chief, and through his influence a meeting of the head men of the town was called, and a fishing expedition agreed upon. The net, if it