

in a deep precipice of eleven hundred feet, called the Pali. Here the trade-wind rushes through, between the two high peaks, fifteen hundred feet above, with violence, while their tops condense the clouds, whose waters are descending constantly in small silver rills, that leap from rock to rock on all sides, unite in the middle of the valley, and form a large brook, which is again distributed by the natives, to give fertility and luxuriance to part of the plain below.

The beauty of the valley, when passing into it, is at times striking, from the effect of the light and shade produced by the clouds, which are occasionally seen lowering on the mountain peaks, and are, as it were, held in check by them. The clouds now and then escape and pass above the peaks, and again burst by with renewed and accumulated strength, sweeping through the valley, and carrying fertilizing showers over it, with every variety of rainbow, while the whole western sky is one glorious sunlight. The sunbeams now and then gain possession of the valley, thus causing a constant and rapid succession of showers and sunshine.

The ride to the Pali is a most agreeable one. There is a tolerable horse-path three-fourths of the way; the remainder would be considered impracticable for horses by those unaccustomed to their performances in a mountain country; but, however frightful the road may appear, I would recommend all those who attempt it, to keep to the horse's back, and trust to his getting them over the steep knolls, and through the miry places. On reaching the Pali, beware of losing not only your hat, but yourself; for when the trade-wind is blowing strong, it is impossible to stand with safety. The view of the plain beneath, the ocean, and the long line of perpendicular cliffs, will amply repay the labour. The Pali may be descended: for this purpose there are steps cut in the rock, and an iron rod to assist in accomplishing the descent in safety. The path leads to the village of Kanehoe, but is little frequented.

The house which the kindness of Governor Kekuanaoa had placed at my disposal, was a double one, of two stories, with piazzas in front, and a wing on one side: it afforded sufficient accommodations for all the duties connected with the surveys, and I took advantage of the opportunity to revise and complete all the charts we had constructed up to this time. The vessels were undergoing the necessary repairs: the officers who were not required on board, were therefore detailed for these duties, reporting to me daily at the observatory, at nine o'clock A. M., where they were employed until 4 P. M.; others were permanently employed in the observatory duties, magnetic and pen-