

CHAPTER III.

HAWAII AND OAHU.

1840.

SHORTLY after our arrival, orders were given to be ready for sea by the 11th of November, at which time it was my desire that we should again be on active duty. Finding, after the return of the tender from Kauai, that the Vincennes and Peacock would necessarily be detained beyond this time to complete their repairs, and wishing to afford the naturalists belonging to the Peacock an opportunity of visiting Hawaii, I gave Messrs. Peale, Rich, and Dana orders to rejoin the tender on the 10th of November. I also gave Mr. Knox instructions to proceed direct to Kealakeakua Bay, to land them there, and to be again ready to receive them in a week afterwards at Hilo Bay, on the opposite side of the island. The party would thus be enabled to cross the island, which I had no hopes of being able to accomplish with the naturalists attached to the Vincennes, as I believed we should all have enough to occupy us fully in the contemplated trip to the top of the mountain, and the examination of the volcanic eruptions. On the same evening at 10 p. m., they went to sea, sweeping out of the harbour, and proceeding on their trip.

In the mean time our preparations for duty were actively progressing. The Porpoise sailed on the 16th of November, under orders for the Paumotu Group.

Preparations were making on board the Vincennes for our trip to the mountain. Dr. Judd, of the mission, at my solicitation, consented to accompany me, as did also Mr. Brinsmade, our consul. The former kindly offered to take all the preliminary steps in reference to the arrangements with the natives, and to procure suitable travelling equipments, in the shape of large calabashes, &c. These last are