

deemed on these islands a most necessary appendage for travelling, and are admirably adapted for the purpose, being exceedingly light and having great capacity. When in the care of a native, although extremely fragile, they are quite secure; they are surrounded by a net made of fine twine or sennit of the cocoa-nut.

To the forethought of Dr. Judd, and his judicious preparations, I feel that much of our success is owing in overcoming many of the difficulties that we met with.

Finding that both the new launches could not be finished in the prescribed time, arrangements were made to complete the one intended for the Peacock, and to defer the finishing of that belonging to the Vincennes until our contemplated return in April; for I deemed that the old one, although ill adapted to our wants, would answer all that we absolutely required of her previous to that time.

On the 24th, all were ordered to join the ships. The tender, agreeably to her orders, returned on the 28th, and the launch of the Peacock being ready, was taken on board on the 29th of November.

Before taking up the cruises of the ships, however, I shall give an account of the tender's trip to Hawaii.

The naturalists were accompanied by Mr. Hall, a gentleman attached to the mission, who kindly volunteered to attend them, and to whom they were much indebted for his great usefulness, both as interpreter, and for the knowledge he possessed of the country. They had, besides, two or three natives who spoke English tolerably well.

They were detained by calms and light winds, so that they did not reach the bay of Kealakeakua until ten o'clock at night, when, having obtained the guidance of some fishermen, they anchored in the dark.

This bay derives its name (path of the gods) from a slide in the hill, which is still visible, which the gods are said to have used in order to cross the bay quickly. It is of no great extent, and opens between two low and barren hills, on each of which a town is situated.

Between them a high perpendicular bluff rises directly from the water, in which are seen numerous caves: in these the natives formerly buried their dead, and still use occasionally for the same purpose. These caves appear inaccessible, and are the resort of vast numbers of birds.

On the 14th (Saturday), they landed at Napolo, and were kindly received by Mr. Forbes, the resident missionary for the district of Kealakeakua. They were greatly disappointed when they found it would be impossible to proceed on their tour that day, and that their departure would have to be deferred until Monday, as it would be impossible to prepare the food necessary for the journey in a day.