

over it. The distance from the coast and the want of roads, however, would interpose many obstacles to its settlement; and the climate, so unlike what the natives are accustomed to on the coast, would probably prevent their services from being obtained.

The next morning they perceived that the tops of both Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa were covered with snow, which, however, disappeared by ten o'clock. They now took a southerly course, crossing over many ancient beds of lava much decomposed, and now covered with vegetation. The trees were the koa (*Acacia*), *Edwardsia*, and *Dodonæa*. They now first met the curious *Compositæ* mentioned by Douglass, and named by Dr. Hooker, *Argyrophyton Douglassii*; it was seen about eight feet in height, covered with a silver pubescence, which gives it a beautiful appearance. They found many pools of water in the lava. They had crossed over the flank of Mauna Loa, and supposed themselves to be about two-thirds of the way up towards its summit.

The temperature at night fell to 40°.

The beautiful columnar cloud of the volcano of Kilauea, which is always seen to hang over the crater, both by day and by night, was now in full view.

The next day they were on their route early, and passed some rich grazing country, with the grass full four feet high. From all appearances, these parts are not visited by cattle. There were many trees of koa (*Acacia*), *Edwardsia*, &c., as before. A fog coming on, they lost their way, and were obliged to retrace their steps. Our gentlemen, having their pocket-compasses, now took the lead, to the no small astonishment of their guides, that they could, in a thick fog, direct the way through places they had never visited before. Kimo, their Oahu guide, again gave out, and was left to follow; and as he did not come up as soon as he was expected, the guides and natives set out, in a praiseworthy manner, to hunt him up, although they were all more or less lamed by crossing over the rough lava during the day. They soon succeeded in finding him, and returned to the camp.

On the 22d, they reached the volcano, and considered themselves amply repaid for the rough travelling they had gone through for six days previously. As I shall have occasion to speak more fully of this portion of the island, with its many craters and its volcanic action, I shall defer the account of it for the present.

Our gentlemen now set out for Hilo, where they arrived the day after, having travelled a distance of one hundred and fifty miles. Here they again embarked on board the *Flying-Fish*, which sailed for Oahu, and reached Honolulu on the 28th of November.