

In consequence of these arrangements, the natives assembled, and were divided into companies; the terms of their employment were agreed on, for taking loads to the mountain and bringing them back; their names and numbers were all entered in a book by the scribes, as we termed the interpreters, or Lahaina scholars. At the head of these scribes was one Kalumo, a young man of great intelligence, but somewhat, as we soon found, inclined to dissipation.

The articles of every description were now arranged in loads, some for one native, others for two, and a few of the heavy and large ones for four. Each of these loads had a number attached to it; and they were, previous to the day of departure, arranged in proper order. The time fixed for setting out was Monday, the 14th of December.

Beside about two hundred natives, the party consisted of Lieutenant Budd, Passed Midshipman Eld, Midshipman Elliott, Mr. Brinsmade, Dr. Pickering, Mr. Brackenridge, Dr. Judd, myself, and ten men, including our servants from the ship. This was a large party; but when it is considered, that besides our instruments, tents, &c., provisions were to be carried, it will not be considered so disproportionate, especially as it generally requires one-third of the number, if not more, to carry provisions for the rest.

Having arranged every thing with Lieutenant Carr, who was left in charge of the ship, for the duties to be performed by him, I set out, at an early hour, to join the host at the Point. Here I found every thing in confusion; our chief scribe, Kalumo, who had the books containing the lists, was missing, and there was an uproar resembling that of Bedlam. Having very willingly committed all the arrangements, as well as the management of the natives, to Dr. Judd, I had nothing to do but to look on.

In consequence of the absence of Kalumo, the natives had an opportunity of trying the weight of some of the bundles, and before he was forthcoming, many of the lightest loads had very adroitly been carried off. No person who has not seen a large collection of South Sea natives, can imagine the noise and confusion that prevailed. Many natives belonging to Kanuha's district had not been engaged, and were of course on the spot, to look on, talk, and dispute.

In consequence of the conduct of Kalumo, it was soon found that there would be many loads for which we had no bearers, and these were, of course, all those of bulk and weight; but how to remedy this state of things was beyond our power to conceive. To stop those who had gone on, and oblige them to return, was impossible. Several hours in the day had already been employed in making up the loads, and the day was fast wearing away; for two o'clock had now arrived.