

passed, at eight miles distance, the chasm that divides the Hilo from the Puna district. As the darkness set in, we began to experience the difficulties we had anticipated from our late start: the bustle and noise became every moment more audible along the whole line as the night advanced: what added not a little to our discomfort, was the bad road we now had to encounter, rendered worse as each native passed on in the tracks of those preceding him, until at last it became in places quite miry.

We continued on, however, until we found most of the natives had come to a stand, and were lying about among the grass by the roadside near a few grass-houses. One of these was hired for our accommodation and to protect us from the heavy dew, to which the natives seemed accustomed: here we proposed to stay until the moon arose, and in the interim to get what little rest we could.

After it became sufficiently light we again set out with a part of our host. The cloud of the volcano of Kilauea lay before us like a pillar of fire, to guide us on our way. We reached Olaa, the habitation of Pea, about half-past four.

Here we found Messrs. Waldron and Drayton, who had preceded us, taking their breakfast on a large round of *bœuf à la mode* and coffee, in which we all cheerfully joined. We concluded to stop here until eight o'clock, to allow time for the natives to cook their food and serve out the rations of poe.

It will scarcely be possible to form a full idea of our company: that of my Lord Byron is described as a sort of triumphal procession; ours was very different from this, and was more allied to a May-day morning in New York, or a vast caravan. It consisted, as my friend Dr. Judd informed me, of two hundred bearers of burdens, forty hogs, a bullock and bullock-hunter, fifty bearers of poe (native food), twenty-five with calabashes, of different sizes and shapes, from two feet to six inches in diameter. Some of the bearers had large and small panels of the portable house on their backs; others, frying-pans or kettles; and others, tents or knapsacks. Then there were lame horses, which, instead of carrying their riders, were led by them; besides a large number of hangers-on, in the shape of mothers, wives, and children, equalling in number the bearers, all grumbling and complaining of their loads; so that wherever and whenever we stopped, confusion and noise ensued. I felt happy in not understanding the language, and of course was deaf to their complaints. It was very evident that the loads were unequally divided; and I must do the natives the justice to say, they had reason to complain, not of us, but of each other. It was impossible for the thing to be remedied at once,