

duties, while some of the officers forwarded the heavy articles; for we now found the necessity of advancing, step by step, towards the summit. The main difficulty was the want of water at the depot, but this I was in hopes might be supplied from above by the return of the parties who were to carry up the instruments, provisions, and wood.

My party consisted of the guide, Keaweehu, twelve Kanakas, and seven of our own men, including the sergeant. At about twelve o'clock we reached a spot where the guide pointed out a few half-burnt sticks, as the place where Lowenstern had cooked his dinner. As the two Kanakas who had charge of the bundles of wood had contrived to lighten their loads very much by dropping part of it by the way, I gave them orders to take the wood he had left to cook our supper.

Mr. Brackenridge passed me on his way from the crater. From him I ascertained we were yet three and a half miles from the terminal point. I gave him instructions to repair to the lower country, as there was nothing for him to do in this barren region.

The wind blew a strong gale from the southwest, and was piercingly cold: the thermometer, at 3 P. M., showed 25°. For some time previous, I had been obliged to keep the Kanakas before me, to prevent them from throwing their loads down and deserting; but I found them unable to go any further; being nearly naked, they were suffering much. Seeking a place of shelter under a high bank of clinkers, partly protected from the wind, I allowed them to deposit their loads, and gave them permission to return, upon which they seemed actually to vanish; I never saw such agility displayed by them before.

As soon as the natives who were on the road saw those from the upper party coming down, they could no longer be induced to face the cold, and all deserted at once. The mountain became in consequence a scene of confusion; being strewn with instruments, boxes, pieces of the portable house, tents, calabashes, &c., which the natives had dropped.

I now found myself with the guide and nine men, with nothing for a covering but the small tent used for the instruments, and the coming on of a snow-storm made it very necessary to have something to protect us. The thermometer had gone down to 18°, and most of the men were much affected with the mountain-sickness, with headache and fever, and were unable to do any thing. I felt quite unwell myself from the same cause, having a violent throbbing of the temples and a shortness of breath, that were both painful and distressing. With the few men that remained able to work, I began