

but time will not permit me to give it, neither do I think it necessary at present, because others have written at large on this subject.

We arrived at Aneiteum on the 5th of May, after a long and tedious voyage. The natives at Dr. Geddie's station held their usual weekly prayer-meeting, and, as the *Dayspring* was about three weeks behind time, they began to fear that something had happened to her. Therefore they held this day also a day of special prayer for the safe arrival of the Missionaries and of the *Dayspring*. While these prayers were being offered up, we could see, through the telescope, Aneiteum, in the distance, but by the time we came up to it, it was too late to enter the harbour, so we had to heave to for the night. We all felt a little loth at putting out to sea again, when we were so near the Mission premises. In the morning, I saw, I think, one of the sublimest sights I ever witnessed: the thousands, if not tens of thousands of different shaped hills and mountains around; some of them were covered with thick clouds of darkness, while the sun was shining upon others with all his light and splendour, and at the same time endeavouring to penetrate and force his way through the thick columns of clouds that hovered over and surrounded these hills and mountains, forming very fantastic appearances; in some places giving all the different tints and colours of the rainbow, while in other places the appearances were of a most conflicting nature. The whole scene brought vividly to my recollection something of what is written about Sinai. Among the many things that passed through my imagination, I thought that it might portray something of the work of God on these islands: the struggle between light and darkness, truth and error; between the kingdom of our Lord and the powers of darkness; for I beheld that as the sun arose, the clouds and darkness began to recede, and after a short time disappeared altogether. So will heathenism, idolatry, superstition and will-worship recede in the distance in proportion as the Sun of Righteousness shall come with healing under His wings; and when He shall shine in the brightness of His glory, the powers of darkness shall disappear altogether. May God hasten it in our day. No doubt the dawn brought light and joy to these natives, when they saw, in the morning, the object of their desire sailing into the harbour, and were all thankful that God had heard their prayers. The object longed for had been near, but they could not see it. How short-sighted and blind are we all at best! The trials and difficulties which beset us seem to add to our perplexities and disappointments: for it is true that "hope deferred maketh the heart sick," but "the Lord is just in all His ways, holy in His works all," could we only see and clearly understand the workings of His hand in providence and grace, and exercise true faith in Him. I trust that we have seen and realized something of His goodness in this voyage also. Had we been subjected to storms and rough weather, our vessel, by all appearance, could not have stood such; for she was so heavily laden that she was down in the water nearly to the *port holes*. The cabin was filled up, and the deck was walled up on each side, with boats and stuff, so that we had scarcely any room to pass one another; in short, the sight would make the blood run cold in your veins at the approach of a coming storm; but, on the whole, we were favoured with calm weather. The little wind we had was right ahead of us. We felt the voyage very tedious; but taking all things into consideration as to the safety of the ship and that of our own lives and property, we thought it the best, and felt thankful. As fellow passengers, besides Dr. Geddie, his wife and daughter, we had the Rev. Mr. Ella and wife of the Loyalty Group. It is almost a wonder that we were not all smothered, and especially the ladies; for we had no pure air to breathe, except when on deck, and that was no pleasant place either for standing or sitting; besides this, there was a continuous drizzle, and sometimes rain in torrents. We could not open any of the port holes. I tried it once or twice, but suffered the penalty for so doing. It was no pleasant thing to sleep all night drenched in wet clothes. We had another great annoyance with the