

intended to walk to the town as before long we should be incapable of walking anywhere. So we started on for the town. Our way led along close to the water's edge with cocoanut trees growing on each and thickly interspersed with banana, lemon and orange trees and yielding a delicious perfume which we inhaled with delight and a gentle breeze fanning our cheeks and the birds singing all round us made it seem like a paradise. After going two or three miles we came to a spring and got a drink of pure cold water and then we sat down to enjoy the scene around us. Stretching away as far as the eye could we rolled the boundless ocean while the breakers dashing on the beach with a monotonous roar seemed to say what sight has this little spot of land to stop my farther progress. Resuming our way to the town the road or path rather turned from the beach and hid the ocean from sight and after walking along in this way till about noon we arrived at the town and falling in with the pilot we proceeded to his house for we were to board with him during our three days' stay.

The town contains about two thousand inhabitants mostly natives. The Governor resides here and quite a number of whalers who have mostly good looking houses but the principal part of the town consists of the huts of the natives which are built of bamboo. They profess the Catholic religion and have a very fine looking cathedral which is presided over by a priest from Spain and if what we saw here is a fair sample it must be a very accommodating religion to live by. Although having a fine harbor no trade is carried on here the principal dependence that way being the transient visits of whalers.

We arrived at the pilot's about noon and dinner being brought in we attempted to

eat. The first dish that I tasted of was a plate of what I took to be flapjacks but I found it impossible to eat one and I finally gave it up. One of us remarked that he should like to have some of them to take to the ship as they would make a substitute for sole leather. I then tried a stew that set before me but I did not make much progress into that for gables seemed to be the principal ingredient. It was a total failure as far as I was concerned but we did not care much as we could get as we pleased many eggs as for one meal we sent a down and cooking them we could have a meal any time.

We spent the day in rambling about the town until evening when we all gathered together at the pilot's and starting up the fiddle we soon began to gather a crowd and there being plenty of women we all got partners and danced away till we were tired and then others would step in and so the evening passed away the bottle as a matter of course passing freely all the time until bedtime when we began to look around for a sleeping place which was soon made by the pilot's bringing a lot of mats and spreading them upon the floor we laid down upon them in our clothes and were soon asleep.

The next day was Sunday and after breakfast some of us started for the cathedral to witness mass performed. It was already thronged when we arrived and service commenced. As we went in it created quite a sensation they appearing to think it an intrusion but as we were quiet and orderly and showed a decent respect we were allowed to remain. The congregation were all kneeling and the priest was reading in Latin which must have edified them greatly. As there were no seats the congregation were obliged to either stand or kneel. It was decorated inside with images of the Virgin and saints and over the altar was a large wax statue of