

July

26th

The starboard watch went ashore on liberty. The day was damp, foggy, and rainy. Wherever we went we were met by swarms of natives asking for tobacco. They are generally very hospitable, it so seemed, and every one you meet wishes you to be his friend. The watch ate dinner in various houses, which are made in a conical form partly resembling a bee hive, open for about 4 feet at the bottom, allowing the air to have a clean sweep through them. The floors are composed of small pebbles, which are covered with mats, which form their beds. The natives of both sexes wear no clothing except a piece of cloth girdled around their loins. The missionary holds complete sway over them; so much so that they would allow none of us to stay ashore over night. The island abounds in tropical fruit, such as bread-fruit, tamar, yams, limes, coconuts, pine-apples, oranges, &c. Of the last two articles, owing to its not being the season, we did not obtain many.

27th

Got all our water aboard today, and

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finished stowing off the hold. The ship so crowded with natives, that it is almost impossible to work; and they invariably want to assist us in eating our dinners.

28th

Weather fine. All hands turned to and hove up the starboard anchor, it being foul of the other. The majority of the crew then went ashore and listened to an excellent sermon by the Rev. Mr. Powell, the missionary.

29th

Got off the last raft of water; the starboard watch went ashore on liberty, the other watch painting ship.

August 1st

The starboard watch went ashore and took a tramp across the mountains to "Massacre Bay" to visit two white men who have been living there a number of yrs. We dined with them, and after a long chat we returned to the ship. During our absence the other watch had hove up the anchor and warped the barque in shore.

2d.

Went ashore with some crockery, a barrel of flour, &c. for the missionary.