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PILLAR OF FIRE BY NIGHT

The Great Hawaiian Volcano is Again Active.

Molten Rocks Pour Out of the Mountain Sides and Down Toward the Sea

Mauna Loa, the great volcano of Hawaii, rising to a height of 13,650 feet above the sea level, is again active. The outbreak occurred shortly after noon on Tuesday, October 6th. From several points on the island of Hawaii an immense cloud of black smoke seemingly a mile in diameter, suddenly shot up toward the zenith, until it seemed almost to cover the whole heavens. Smoke continued to rise, black at first, presently assuming a reddish tinge as though reflecting the brightness and glow of a Titanic caldron of molten lava below. As light faded and darkness came, the pillar of cloud became a pillar of fire, while the great body of smoke resting in the upper air reflected the light until the heavens seemed illuminated, and the wondrous spectacle was visible eighty miles at sea.

The news of the outbreak was brought to Honolulu by a sailing vessel, the British ship Ormsery. At noon on Tuesday the Ormsery, then sixty miles westward of Hawaii in a calm, felt a sudden commotion in the water like a great tidal wave. She was driven rapidly astern, and whirled around as though in a maelstrom. This lasted for half an hour. Then it ceased and the sea resumed its normal calm. While the men on the ship were still wondering what cataclysm of nature they had just experienced, the man at the wheel descried far to the eastward, the great outburst of smoke from the summit of Mauna Loa.

The eruption has continued all the week, but so distant and inaccessible is the point where the great forces of nature have broken forth, that as yet no one has been there and returned. All that is known, or can be known of the outbreak at the present time, is what can be seen of it at great distance or from the decks of vessels at sea. The nearest inhabited place is thirty-five miles away.

From the observations that have been made, it is believed the outbreak occurred in the so-called summit crater of Mauna Loa, Mokuaweewe. Activity in this crater continues, but the great body of the lava, instead of flowing over the lip of the crater has broken out one or two thousand feet lower down the slope of the mountain, and has now formed a great stream of lava flowing down the side of the mountain toward the sea forty or fifty miles away.

This is what has happened in all previous outbreaks within modern times. In the last outbreak, in 1899, the lava broke out about 2000 feet below the crater of Mokuaweewe, but on the side toward Hilo, while in the present case the evidence is overwhelming that the lava flow is toward the south or southwest, in the direction of South Kona or Kau.

The lava flow has not yet reached the forest, which is 6000 feet above sea level. The great column of fire by night and of smoke by day which rises from the summit of the mountain is visible from all parts of the island of Hawaii and from many parts of Maui. At night great fountains of fire rise to a height of many hundred feet. From some of points of view there are half a dozen of these fountains, while from other points they seem to merge into one.

A number of parties from Hilo and from other parts of the island of Hawaii have started for the scene of the great eruption. The distances they will have to go and the difficulties of the journey are such that probably not more than one in three of those who start will reach their destination, and those who do will be gone three days or more before it will be possible for them to get back.

Mauna Loa is a dome-like mountain, occupying about one-third of the area of the island of Hawaii. The crater of Mokuaweewe near the summit of Mauna Loa is about 8000 feet across in one diameter and 12,000 feet in the other. From the top of its almost perpendicular walls to the bottom, where never ceasing smoke gives evidence of the everlasting fires below, is about 1000 feet. Nothing can exceed the impressiveness of this vast caldron on the top of the great dome. For more than half the year it is snow

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covered, though there is scarcely a day that some evidence of molten heat within is not given.

No apprehension of any danger to persons or property is felt. There are no settlements in the direction in which the lava seems to be flowing, and if there were the lava flows so slowly that all persons could easily get out of the way.

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	Leaves Corvallis	11:30 a.m.
	Arrives Albany	12:15 p.m.
No. 3 for Detroit—	Leaves Albany	7:00 a.m.
	Arrives Detroit	12:20 p.m.
No. 4 from Detroit—	Leaves Detroit	1:00 p.m.
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