

calcined sides of the great crater before us; the fissures which intersected the surface of the plain on which we were standing; the long banks of sulphur on the opposite sides of the abyss; the vigorous action of the numerous small craters on its borders; the dense columns of vapour and smoke that rose out of it, at the north and south ends of the plain, together with the ridge of steep rocks by which it was surrounded, rising three or four hundred feet in perpendicular height; presented an immense volcanic panorama, the effect of which was greatly augmented by the constant roaring of the vast furnaces below."

18. STEWART'S VISIT TO KIRAUEA.—In June 1825, Mr. Stewart, accompanied by Lord Byron, and a party from the Blonde frigate, went to Kirauea, and descended to the bottom of the crater.

"The general aspect of the crater," observes Mr. Stewart, "may be compared to that which the Otsego Lake would present, if the ice with which it is covered in winter were suddenly broken up by a heavy storm, and as suddenly frozen again, while large slabs and blocks were still toppling, and dashing, and heaping against each other, with the motion of the waves. At midnight the volcano suddenly began roaring, and labouring with redoubled activity, and the confusion of noises was prodigiously great. The sounds were not fixed or confined to one place, but rolled from one end of the crater to the other; sometimes seeming to be immediately