

detail. I therefore feel that I may be permitted to give an opinion without the imputation of having been over hasty, or prejudiced in forming it. Such haste or prejudice may with some reason be imputed to those who not unfrequently imbibe their notions of these islanders and their teachers from a few days' sojourn, and who have had intercourse only with those opposed to both the government and missionaries. I am not at all surprised that this should be the case with those who only visit Honolulu.

That great licentiousness and vice exist there, is not to be denied; but to throw the blame of them on the missionaries, seems to me to be the height of injustice. I am well satisfied that the state of things would be much worse were it not for their watchfulness and exertions. The lower class of foreigners who are settled in these islands, are a serious bar to improvement in morals, being for the most part keepers of low taverns, sailors' boarding-houses, and grog-shops. Every inducement that can allure sailors from their duty, and destroy their usefulness, is held out to them here. Such men must be obnoxious in any community, and that they are not able to make more disturbance than they do, supported as they are by those who ought to know better, is, I am satisfied, mainly owing to the attention and energy of the governor, and the watchfulness of the members of the mission over the natives.

I do not desire to be understood to express the opinion that the course pursued by the missionaries is in all respects calculated to produce the most happy effects. I am, however, well satisfied that they are actuated by a sincere desire to promote the welfare and improvement of the community in which they live; I therefore feel it my duty to bear ample testimony to their daily and hourly exertions to advance the moral and religious interests of the native population, not only by precept, but by example; and to their untiring efforts, zeal, and devotion, to the sacred cause in which they are engaged.

I shall hereafter have occasion to speak of the institutions of which they are the authors, and of their connexion with the government; in short, of their secular avocations. I have myself had intercourse both with the missionaries and those who are their opponents; and it gave me pleasure to perceive that, with but three or four exceptions, there was a degree of moderation exhibited by both parties, that bespoke the dawn of a good feeling towards each other, to which they had long been strangers.

In consequence of this new state of things, I was not called upon to listen to the vituperation and abuse of the missionaries that I had been