

forcible possession, or colonizing the island, was shortly afterwards denied, in the most positive manner, by the Russians, it is probable that the whole was the work of a vain and ambitious man, who had suddenly found himself elevated above his own sphere. That he either wanted the inclination or the courage to carry out his conceptions, if he had any, is manifest, from his immediate acquiescence to the order of the chief to quit the island. He is now known at the islands under the appellation of the Russian Doctor, although by birth a German. The Russian Stone Fort, as it is now called, is garrisoned by a guard of natives.

Waimea offers the best anchorage at this island, except in the months of January and February, when the trades are interrupted, and the wind blows strong from the southwest, and directly on shore.

About a mile west of Waimea is the spot where the first English boat landed from Cook's expedition. The village of Waimea takes its name from the river, which rises in the mountains, and after a course of about fifteen miles, enters the sea there. It is navigable three-fourths of a mile from its mouth, in boats. The water is used for irrigating the valley, and might also be appropriated to manufacturing purposes, as there are many excellent mill-seats, and a steady supply of water for such purposes.

The district in which Waimea is situated, is called Hanapepe, and extends to Napali on the west, and Hanapepe on the east. The former is about twenty miles distant from Waimea, and the latter six. At Napali a part of the central range of mountains meets the sea, and shuts in the plain near the sea-shore by a perpendicular precipice, between fifteen hundred and two thousand feet in height.

The sandy plain that skirts the southwest side of the island is from one-fourth of a mile to a mile wide, and lies one hundred and fifty feet above the level of the sea; the ground rises thence gradually to the summit of the mountains. This land is fit for little except the pasturage of goats, and presents a sunburnt appearance, being destitute of trees to the distance of eight or ten miles from the sea. The plain above spoken of, therefore, has little to recommend it. There is a strip of land just before the mountain ascent begins, which has an excellent soil, but for the want of water will probably long remain unproductive. On the low grounds the cocoa-nut tree thrives and bears abundant fruit, which is not the case with those on the other islands.

The sea-coast bounding this district, is considered the best for fishing, and the manufacture of salt might be extensively carried on.

The drinking water, except that obtained from the river, is brackish.

The valley of Hanapepe borders on the eastern part of this district: