

and covered nearly the whole northern portion. This eruption happened about thirty years since, in 1809 and 1810. Hualalai is between seven and eight thousand feet in height, and rises abruptly on its west side.

Rain seldom falls on the coast, except in showers, and a rainy day once in the year is looked upon as something remarkable. This, together with the absence of all dew, prevents the existence of much cultivation; it affords, nevertheless, a coarse vegetation, sufficient to pasture a few hundred goats; but, a mile back from the shore, the surface is covered with herbage, which maintains cattle, &c.; and two miles in the interior there is sufficient moisture to keep up a constant verdure.

Here, in a belt half a mile wide, the bread-fruit is met with in abundance, and above this the taro is cultivated with success. At an elevation of between two and three thousand feet, and at the distance of five miles, the forest is first met with. The trees of this are suitable for building timber, and boards and shingles are made of them. The products of this portion of Kona are the same as before described.

The prevailing winds are the land and sea breezes, which are very regular; there are likewise strong north winds, but the most severe gales are those from the southwest, which the natives term kona; these last from a few hours to two and even three days, and are followed by rain: they are seldom strong enough to injure the houses.

Here the temperature is very mild and equable. During the winter the thermometer ranges, at sunrise, from 64° to 78° F.; at midday, 76° to 85° ; at sunset, 70° to 80° . In summer the range is 68° to 80° at sunrise; at midday, 78° to 86° ; and at sunset, 72° to 81° . I have not been able to get any data for the amount of rain that falls.

The population in 1839 was 5,943, which was only fourteen less than in 1835. It is the opinion of the missionaries that the population is not decreasing by death, and it is thought that any apparent decrease is owing to removals, or if not to this cause, perhaps to an error in the census. The register of births and deaths for nine months, in 1839, would seem to confirm this, there being one hundred and twenty-three births and ninety-one deaths, or thirty-two in favour of the former.

The result of the inquiries of Dr. Andrews, the resident physician, shows a great mortality among the children. Out of ninety-six married females, nearly all under forty-five years of age, twenty-three had no children; the remaining seventy-three had two hundred and ninety-nine, of which one hundred and fifty-two did not survive the second