

then scraping and straining it through fine leaves. After standing awhile, the fecula settles, when the water is poured off. The fecula is then made into small cakes with the hand, by which operation it is freed from the remaining water; and it is then placed in the sun to dry. The manufacture of this article is generally limited to the quantity necessary for furnishing each of the females with a calico frock. This of course does not amount to any very great quantity, in a commercial point of view; but will yet be considered large, when the manner in which it is gathered is considered. I was informed, that the quantity shipped to Oahu yearly, was two hundred thousand pounds; and that the price paid for it was two or three cents a pound, in goods. At Honolulu, it is sold at a profit of one hundred per cent. to the shipper.

Indigo might be made a profitable culture; for it grows wild in many parts of the island, and in great luxuriance. It is naturalized at Hilo, where I learned that some experiments had been made, which leave little doubt that if it were cultivated, it would be found to be equally valuable with that of the West Indies.

Sandalwood, it is well known, was the first article that brought this people into notice, gave importance to the islands, and tempted foreigners to visit them. The chiefs, finding they had a store of treasure, believed it to be inexhaustible; and were tempted, by their own cupidity and that of their visitors, to cut it without stint. The course of this trade led to all sorts of tyranny and oppression by the chiefs towards their dependants. The trees have been for some years tabooed; but this plan was adopted too late to preserve any of large size. Those which were not cut down for sale, it is said were destroyed by the natives, to prevent impositions being practised upon them. Not unfrequently, the chiefs would despatch their dependants to the mountains, with nothing to eat but what they could gather from the forest of ferns, the core of whose trunk supplied them with a scanty and precarious subsistence. These hardships were enough to cause whole tracts to become waste. It will be a long time before the remainder of these trees are large enough to become an article of commerce.

Mr. Brackenridge on his return from the mountain passed from the volcano to the sea-board at Papapala. He found the whole country to the southwest of the crater a flat barren waste of smooth lava, mixed with fields of drifted scoria, and with bundles of capillary glass, or Pele's hair, hanging to the few stunted tufts of *Silene* and *Compositæ*. This character continues to within six miles of the sea, when the lava becomes more rough, and bushes of *Metrosideros* and *Sophora*