

The diseases are fevers, inflammation, and scrofula.

The opinion generally prevails, that the natives of the Sandwich Islands have an abundance of food, and are not exposed to any hardships; but this I found to be extremely erroneous; for, with the exception of chiefs, and those immediately connected with them, they often suffer as much as the poor of other countries. As civilization advanced this suffering seems to have increased, partly owing to the decrease of food, and partly to the diminution in the authority of the chiefs. Many were formerly obliged to labour for the chiefs, by whom they were in turn supported; these are now compelled to trust to their own resources for support, and seldom can be brought to work until they are driven by necessity.

The Kohala district lies on the north point of Hawaii, and is divided from that of Waimea by a range of mountains. The soil on the leeward shore is barren from three to five miles inland. On the windward shore it is of good quality quite to the beach. The face of the country is regular, gradually ascending from the coast to the summit of the high lands.

Kohala, the residence of the missionary, the Rev. Mr. Bliss, is the principal place in this district. The view from that place is pleasing; in front is a fine prospect of the ocean, with the island of Maui in the rear; the ground gradually rises from the shore to the volcanic peaks of Mauna Kea, tipped with snow; while on the right and left are extensive forests and uncultivated fields.

In this district it is estimated that there are fifty thousand acres of good arable land, much of which is fit for the plough, and suitable for the growth of sugar-cane, Indian corn, potatoes, the mulberry, and the other productions of the country. The country inland, especially, is well suited to the culture of the common potato. It is also well adapted for grazing, but is now a waste. The natives only raise sufficient taro, sugar-cane, and sweet-potatoes, for their own use, and a very small patch suffices to supply their wants. Some of them attempt to carry a small quantity of their produce, on their backs or in canoes, to Kawaihae, for sale, but this is of little account. One of the natives, however, has been induced to begin the erection of a sugar-mill.

Little has been done by the inhabitants towards the improvement of their dwellings: these are very small and often exceedingly filthy: the doors are from two and a half to three feet high. A few attempts have been made to erect larger houses, and to improve the quality of the thatch; but the people do not seem inclined to change their former modes of life.