

of tobacco, and that he has known some deaths from this cause. He, however, bears testimony, that there is some reformation in regard to this debasing habit.

The diseases are very similar to those mentioned in other places, with the exception of several cases of decided consumption which have been met with. The climate is believed to be, upon the whole, more healthy than other parts of the island, and the weather is generally cool, with a bracing air.

On the 12th of February, I witnessed an interesting sight,—the chase of blackfish, of which a school was seen in the afternoon in the bay. Upon this, the natives who were fishing, and those on shore, put off in their canoes to get to seaward of them: when this was effected, they began making a great noise, to drive the fish in; and finally succeeded in forcing many of them into shoal water, from whence they were dragged on the beach, when about twenty of large size were taken. I measured one, which was eight and a half feet long. The whole scene was animated, and the fish seemed completely bewildered and exhausted from fright. They afforded a fine feast to all the inhabitants of the bay, besides yielding plenty of oil, of which they are very fond. The moment a school of porpoises is discovered, it is their usual practice to drive them in, gently at first, but when they are sufficiently close, a loud clamour begins, in which old and young of both sexes join.

Mr. Drayton was, with the exception of Dr. Pickering, the last to visit the crater. On the road to Keau, the former examined a curious cave, called by the natives *Pariorii*, which is said to have been one of the dancing-halls of the attendants of the goddess *Pele*. This legend also points out the drums upon which the music was performed. These are hollow cones or pillars formed by the lava blistering up, and remaining hollow: when struck, they give a deep sound, not unlike that from a large drum. The cave is said to have been much curtailed in its dimensions about a century ago.

At all the small places along the coast there are some petty officers, mostly connected with and appointed by the missionaries. Besides the religious duties they perform, they are likewise tax-gatherers, have a good deal of authority over the people, and were found to be the greatest extortioners our gentlemen met with.

At some of the houses, the natives were seen to be very much afraid of the tax-gatherers, and when any of them made their appearance, all merriment would cease; those who were indulging in a pipe or cigar, would at once put them aside, and all seemed under restraint.

The native women are generally found employed, either in plaiting