

have before said is not to be relied on. The grounds on which this decrease has been supposed to exist were, that it was found that of fifty-six mothers, taking old and young promiscuously, were born two hundred and sixty-seven children, of whom one hundred and twenty-nine are living, one hundred and twenty-five died very young, mostly under the age of two years, and thirteen at ages beyond ten years. It is thought by Mr. Forbes, that this proportion of deaths would hold good through the district. One thing seems certain however, that they do not all die from hereditary diseases; many are carried off by diarrhœa, occasioned by improper diet, and a few are stillborn. There has also been much emigration from this district to others, and many have embarked as sailors on board whale-ships. The laws under which they formerly lived, have caused them to be improvident. They have frequently suffered from want of food; and not unfrequently they are obliged to work without either good water or sufficient nutriment.

From all accounts, cases of infanticide are rare, nor, as we have before observed, is it thought that the law prohibiting illicit intercourse has had a tendency to increase it. One of the causes which formerly made it frequent, was the husband leaving his wife for another woman, which invariably led to her destroying the child.

As respects intemperance, there has been no native seen intoxicated for several years.

There are twenty-three schools, one of which is kept by the missionaries, and the others by natives, some of whom have been educated at the high-school at Lahaina. The number of scholars is between seven and eight hundred.

The principal diseases are those of a scorbutic character, cutaneous eruptions, remittent fevers, catarrhs, and inflammation of the viscera; these are the most fatal. Diarrhœa, dysentery, and ophthalmia also prevail to some extent.

The southwest side of Hawaii is termed the district of Kona, and includes Kealakeakua and Kailau. Having already spoken of the former, I shall now refer to the latter; more especially as from all accounts I heard of it, the natives are more advanced in the useful arts than elsewhere, and are now less dependent on foreigners.

The town of Kailau is the residence of Kuakini, better known among foreigners by the name of Governor Adams, who is governor of Hawaii.

This district lies to the north of Kealakeakua, and begins about five miles from Napolo. It is similar to it in character, but the lava is of more recent formation, the eruptions from Hualalai having flowed down