

flavoured watery fluid rises to the top, in some cases highly intoxicating, and in others acting as a narcotic. Many of the chiefs and warriors drink this stuff to great excess, and the end is very frequently death or insanity.

Another source of supply lies in the fish ponds ; these are ingenious contrivances made by walling off a portion of the sea with blocks of coral ; inside are put numberless fish of any kind, which are thus kept ready to be caught and dressed at a few moments' notice, so that you are never at a loss for provisions, go to a native's hut at what hour you will. They rear hogs and chickens for sale, but do not eat them unless hard pressed by the failure of their more favourite food. Probably their fish and taro diet accounts in a small measure for some of the diseases so prevalent, and which shock and disgust the stranger on every side, though they are attributed to immorality, which, in spite of the labours of the missionaries and the advance of civilization,