

the hospitality of those who have preceded them, until such time as their friends erect a hut for them, the result of which is that all the huts are filled to overcrowding. But this the natives rather like. Their chief complaint had been the want of water, and with a view to remedy that want the Board of Health had sent Mr. Freeth, who, after a thorough examination of the surrounding parts, came to the conclusion that an "artesian well" would be required. What action has been taken upon his report I am unable to say. The lepers from the various islands, after being certified as such by the Government physician of the district, are sent first to Honolulu, and when the number reaches 15 or 20, they are shipped in a schooner, kept for the purpose, to the settlement, Molokai. It occurred to me once to be present at the departure from the Honolulu wharf of the schooner with its living cargo. The lepers were sitting and lying about on the deck, and the wharf was thronged with the friends and relatives of the exiles. When the schooner weighed anchor, and was setting out into the stream, the loud and unearthly wailings of those on shore, and the husky cries and moans of those on board, were heartrending in the extreme. The schooner occasionally meets with adverse winds, and the lepers are exposed to a wet deck for two and sometimes three days before reaching their destination. Such was the experience of the immigrants who landed a day before my visit, one of whom died from the exposure an hour after landing, and another jumped overboard when a day out, and so ended his misery. The embryo Hawaiian Government is severely burdened by the expense of maintaining "the leper settlement," and though the state of affairs is not all one would wish, the government is doing all it reasonably can for the poor unfortunates. If a portion of the immense sums that have been collected from all parts of the civilized world to Christianize the Hawaiian race were devoted to ameliorating the condition of the lepers, more practical good, at least, would be obtained. The natives, as I have already said, appear tolerably contented, but the condition of the white lepers is very sad indeed. One poor fellow in particular was an object of pity and commiseration. He was of American extraction, and had re-