

# HOME SCHOOLS

Vol. I.]

TORONTO, APRIL 14, 1883.

[No. 8.]

### To-Day.

BY THOMAS CARLYLE.

Lo! here hath been dawning  
Another new day;  
Think wilt thou let it  
Slip useless away.

Out of Eternity  
This new day is born;  
Into Eternity,  
At night, will return.

Behold it aforeside  
No eye ever did;  
So soon it forever  
From all eyes is hid.

Here hath been dawning  
Another new day;  
Think wilt thou let it  
Slip useless away.

### The Sandwich Islands.

This group comprises ten islands. The three most important are, Hawaii, Maui, and Oahu. They are of volcanic origin, and contain the largest volcanoes, both active and quiescent, in the world. They were first visited in 1778, by Capt. Cook.

In early times each island had a king, but under Kamehameha I., they were formed into one government. Kamehameha placed his kingdom under British protection, where it remained until 1843, when its independence was declared by the French and English governments. The principal product of the islands is sugar.

Honolulu, the principal city, and capital of the kingdom, is also the principal harbour. It is situated on the south side of the island of Oahu. Few cities have a more favourable situation than Honolulu. On entering the harbour it presents a very picturesque appearance. A chain of lofty hills, stretching from the north-west to the south east, is the most prominent object inland. The low-roofed houses, surrounded by the bright tropical foliage, the clear sky, the smooth water, the active boats skimming about the harbour, make up a striking and pleasing picture.

The Hawaiian race is dying out, and foreigners are taking possession of their country. When discovered, the population was estimated at 400,000; now there are less than 30,000 pure natives in the entire group. Another dark side of the picture is seen in the passage of a free liquor bill in the last legislature. Hitherto the laws have restricted the sale of ardent spirits to the foreigners. Natives, like all semi-civilized races, have a marked propensity for drink, and now that the vilest adulterations are open to them, their ruin is easy.

But another matter of interest is drawing attention towards the island,

king requested that some religious teachers might be sent out from England, but the request was not complied with. Meanwhile the impression made by Vancouver was not forgotten, and Kamehameha I., in his last sickness, forbade the customary offering of human sacrifice. The mother of the new king persuaded him to destroy the idols, and the whole nation arose and renounced their religion. The first missionaries who arrived there witnessed the singular phenomenon of a nation without a religion.

It was from the Sandwich Islands that missionaries were first sent to Japan.

year to \$4,500, probably a larger amount, in proportion to their possessions, than is gathered from any other church in Christendom.

During the years 1837-43, a wonderful wave of religious interest swept over this whole land. Gordon Cumming thus described it:

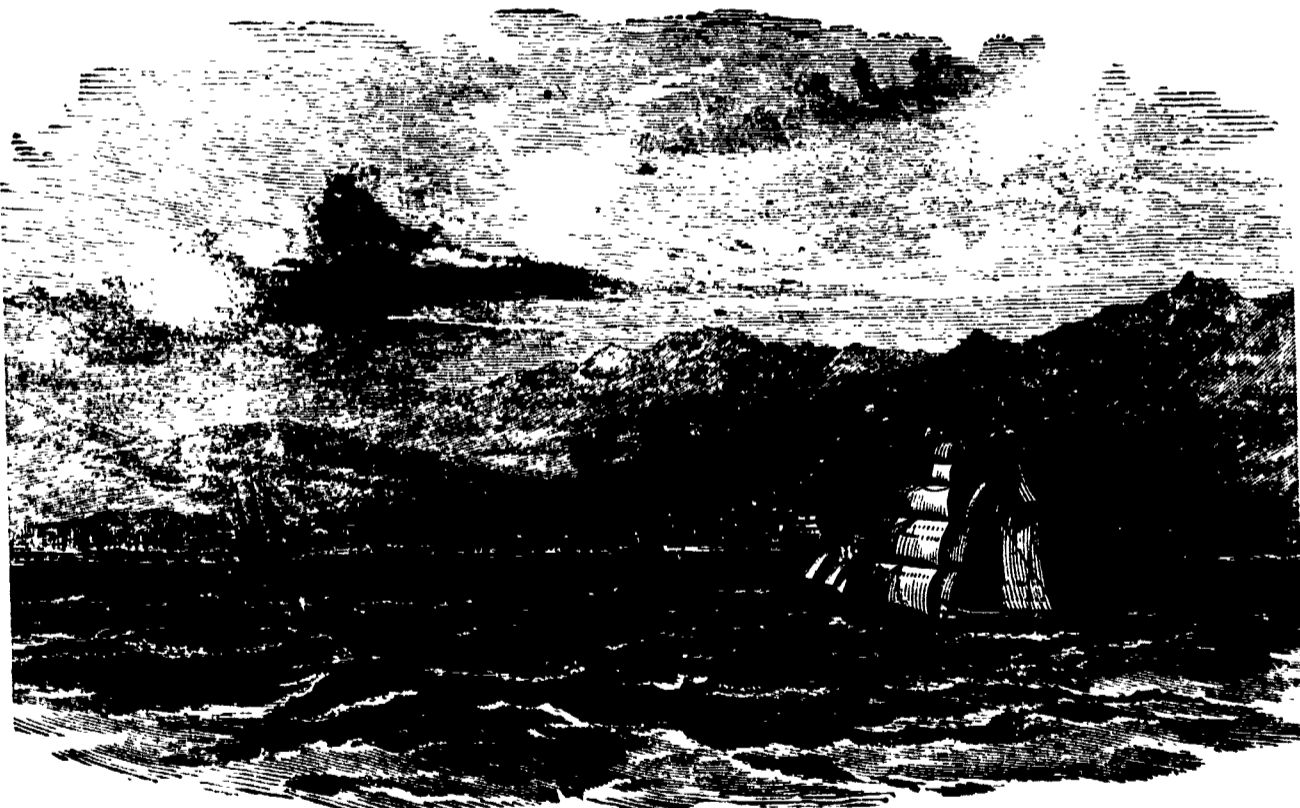
"It was like an electric thrill, affecting all the Isles, so that from every corner of the group came accounts of what we should call great revival meetings. In remotest districts, having no connection one with another, the missionaries found the people becoming restless and uneasy, crowding round the mission stations, and patiently

waiting for hours till their turn should come to have personal talk with the men who could teach them the right way. For months this continued, and the missionaries could scarcely get time for needful sleep and food. Many who lived at a distance of fifty and sixty miles came regularly to the Sunday services, devoting the whole of Saturday and Monday to travelling to and fro."

During the last summer another revival has visited the country. Mr. M. C. Hollenbeck was the honoured instrument, speaking through an interpreter, and assisted by three or four native Christians. The methods pursued seem to

have been much the same as those employed by Messrs. Moody and Sankley. Mr. Forbes says of it: "Mine eyes have seen the coming of the glory of the Lord as never before, and as I never expected to see it in this world." Though designed originally for natives, natives and foreigners have met together—English, Hawaiians, Germans, Swedes, Chinese—a mixed multitude, to whom the Gospel has come as the power of God unto salvation.

The best feature of all is that the work goes on after the special meetings have closed, and it is believed that many more souls will be gathered in.



HONOLULU, SANDWICH ISLANDS.

which throws a brighter light upon their future, and makes every Christian heart rejoice—the wonderful revival of religion which has been in progress there during the last summer.

The religious history of this country has been most singular. The first Christians who visited there were Capt. Cook and his followers, but of them the natives had no favourable impression, Cook himself having been killed there in a quarrel resulting from his own misdeeds. Vancouver, who was with Cook, subsequently returned and endeavoured to enlighten the natives in the Christian religion. The

The first missionaries were Americans. Five Hawaiian youths went to the United States to receive an education, and it was through them that the American Board were induced to send a mission to the islands in 1820. The details of the work are of remarkable interest. Never has a country been so readily won for Christ. Now pretty little churches dot the islands so frequently as to show quite conclusively that the natives are a church-going people. These churches are self-sustaining, and the contributions of these lately Christianized people, for other foreign missions, amounted the past