

residence of Mr. R. W. Myers, the general superintendent of the settlement, an intellectual and highly-respected Hollander, but who had resided on the island for upwards of thirty years, and was the father of a large half-white family. We met with kind hospitality at his hands, and were made to partake of a more substantial breakfast than that we had already feasted on. Mr. Myers kindly accompanied us to the "poli," where we had to discard our horses, and make the descent of the perpendicular precipice as best we could, having at times to hang on literally with our "hands and teeth."

The view from the poli was one not easily to be forgotten, and which fully inculcated the meaning of a "living grave!" At our feet lay what appeared from that height (the grass being withered and dry) a sandy, arid plain, without a patch of green or a tree to relieve its barrenness. At either end of the plain were a number of small huts, most of which were white, some of a dark brown; beyond was the creamy surf line and the wild waste of waters of the Pacific, blending in the distant horizon with a wavy bank of fleecy white clouds. Just then not a living object could be seen moving about below, and the feeling of gloominess and depression with which the landscape and its associations impressed one is not to be expressed in words.

After several narrow escapes of going down faster than might be compatible with the process of respiration, we succeeded in reaching the plain beneath. There we were met by three of the colonists on horseback, with the disease in an advanced state, who had come to greet us—having previously heard of our intended visit—and exhibit themselves as objects of curiosity. They seemed well pleased with my close observation of them, but did not conceal their disgust at my friend Mr. Freeth, who lost no time in putting himself at a safe distance on their windward side. One of these had the "leonine expression" well marked. The skin of the face was extremely hypertrophied; the eyebrows were devoid of hair, and every feature of the countenance was uniformly enlarged. Though only about 15 years of age, he had the appearance of an octogenarian, whose irregular and dissipated life had left its marks on the face by