

On this tract, the bare volcanic rock shows out everywhere, and its only conspicuous vegetation is a Prickly Pear (*Opuntia*), introduced from America, which has spread far on either side from the town and multiplied exceedingly, so as in places to form a dense impassable growth, and constitute a most conspicuous feature in the landscape. These barren parts of Oahu reminded me somewhat of the rocky tracts of Tenerife, with their growth of *Euphorbia canariensis*.

The Guava, a second introduced American plant, has spread in all directions, in places forming dense thickets from which it is difficult to drive out the half-wild cattle. The whole town of Honolulu has a thoroughly American aspect. Americans are supplanting the rapidly decreasing native population; American plants are, as has been said, covering the ground, and American birds have been introduced, and bid fair to spread and oust the native avi-fauna, which has no single Land-bird in common with any other Polynesian Island group.

The only vigorous opponents of the Americans in the struggle for existence are the Chinese. The natives speak English commonly with a nasal twang, and I was much amused by a small Hawaiian boy from whom I asked the way in the streets, who replied with the strongest twang, but with the utmost readiness, "I don't speak no English, I don't."

Behind Honolulu is a valley, called Nuuanu Valley, with precipitous walls in its upper part, which becomes greener and greener as the ascent is made by the road leading up it. The difference of rainfall in the valley, and in Honolulu, is most remarkable. At Waikiki, near Honolulu, at sea level, the rainfall in 1873 was 37·85 inches, whilst in the Nuuanu Valley, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ miles distant inland, and at an elevation of only 550 feet, the fall was in the same year 134·06 inches. Captain Wilkes even remarks that certain streets in the town of Honolulu are said to be more rainy than others.

The leading native trees in the valley, are the Malvaceous *Paritium tiliaceum*, *Acacia koa*, and the Candle Nut (*Aleurites triloba*). The *Paritium* forms curiously tangled impassable thickets. The *Koa* grows only high up on the cliff tops. The Candle Nut, by the peculiar glaucous colour of its foliage, gives a characteristic appearance to the vegetation. Its blue-green trees, seen in the far distance, appear as rounded bushes, dotted over the high ground above the barren shore region.

At the summit of the valley is the "pali," a narrow cleft in the tops of the mountains, which are on the other side precipitous. A beautiful view of the windward side of the island is here suddenly encountered, and a refreshing breeze blows through the gap. The range of cliffs forming the windward