

KILAUEA—THE SANDWICH ISLAND VOLCANO.

About a year ago, at the time of the great earthquake and eruption at Hawaii, action in the old crater suddenly ceased simultaneous with the tremendous shock of April 2, 1897, which shook the whole archipelago from Kau to Niihau; the internal fire ceased to burn, and the bottom of the crater subsided from three to five hundred feet below its level. It seemed as though the lava had been suddenly drawn off, and was doubtless the case, leaving the door of the crater caved in. Had it not been held together by its great thickness and strength, no one can tell where it might have fallen, too, as no traces of the fire have since been seen until lately, except in the "Old South Lake," which seems to be a funnel leading from the deep internal fires. Travelers who have lately visited the crater assure us that the Old South Lake is growing in size and activity. It increases its area, not from overflow, but by the caving in of the surrounding rim. At times immense portions of the adjacent old and hard lava cave in and are swallowed up in the boiling lava of the fiery caldron. In this way the active lake has increased from 200 to 300 feet over 1,500 in diameter, and is still extending. Some think that it may continue to enlarge its borders until it engulfs the greater part of Kilauea. From this it will be seen that the crater is undergoing a great change, and that it is becoming more active, though it may be years before they acquire the force necessary to produce another eruption. Its present condition is very similar to what old residents represent it to have been in 1830, or thereabouts. Not only is this steady increase of activity going on now in Kilauea, but occasionally jets of lava are thrown up out of South Lake to such a height as to attract the attention of natives living near or passing by at some distance from the crater. The southern part of Hawaii, from Hilo to Kau, is still subject to earthquake shocks, and scarcely a week passes without one. These are not sufficiently severe, however, to cause any damage. But their existence creates a doubt as to the late eruption having been so thorough as those of former years, in pacifying the rebellious elements at work under Mauna Loa. Those who have visited Kilauea in former years will readily observe the great changes in the depression of the floor of the crater, as well as the comparative activity of the molten lava; while a stranger might not notice anything peculiar, and perhaps be even disappointed in not finding the display such as his imagination had pictured. Compared with the occasions of great eruptions, Kilauea is still quite dormant, and yet the changes we have noted will interest all who have ever visited this great outlet of the internal fire.—Honolulu Advertiser.

TREATMENT OF DROWNED PERSONS

Dr. Benjamin Howard, Professor of Clinical and Operative Surgery to the Long Island College Hospital, New York, has published in a little pamphlet some "Plain Rules" for the restoration of persons apparently dead from drowning, which are worthy the attention of police officers, physicians, river men, and, indeed, of all others. They are simpler than those of Dr. Marshall Hall, and, we think, more effective. They constitute the system taught under the auspices of the Metropolitan Board of Health of New York. The work of restoration should be commenced the moment the body is recovered, and on the spot, as the delay caused by carrying the body to a convenient place may prove fatal. The first thing to be done is to clean the patient's mouth, remove all clothing from the chest and waist, rub the exposed part dry, and give two quick snuffing sips on the stomach with the open hand. Next, turn the patient on his face with a roll of clothing placed under his stomach, and press firmly and heavily on the back, so as to force the water he may have swallowed from his lungs and stomach. Then turn him quickly on his back, with the roll under the back just below the shoulder blades. This makes the chest to project upward. One person takes hold of the patient's tongue, with a dry handkerchief, and holds it out at one corner of the mouth to prevent it from falling back and clogging the windpipe, and, at the same time, hold the patient's hands on the ground above his head. The operator then kneels beside the patient's body at the hips, and with his hands resting on his stomach, and the fingers extending down the sides, over the short ribs, presses with his whole weight steadily upon the patient's body, at the same time squeezing the ribs with the fingers. The pressure is protracted for a second, till the foul air in the lungs is expelled; then, with a final push, the pressure is suddenly released. The fresh air will instantly flow through the man's lungs through his mouth. After waiting for two seconds, renew the pressure on the body as before, to again expel the air—letting go suddenly, to cause another supply of fresh air to flow in. This process will cause artificial respiration, and should be continued for two hours, or until the patient begins to breathe of his own accord, and is well to continue it gently, for a while after he has begun to breathe. All this time, the friction of the limbs should be kept up, increasing it after the patient exhibits signs of returning animation. As soon as the patient can take it, give a little brandy and water, every ten or fifteen minutes for the first hour, to aid resuscitation. This treatment is thoroughly philosophical, and will in the end reanimate and restore the patient, unless the vital spark has fled.—St. Louis Home Journal.

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