

luxuriate in a pair of duck trousers, and carry the pareu upon their shoulders.

The appearance of the dress of the women while at church, has already been spoken of. On ordinary occasions, they wear the pareu alone, but when dressed, put over it a loose dress, resembling a night-gown, buttoned at the wrists, and confined in no other place. Relics of their ancient dress may still occasionally be seen in wreaths of flowers around the head, and in the hair. The *hau* is a sort of rim made of pandanus, and when it has flowers beneath, it gives



TAHITIAN GIRL, WITH THE HAU.

a pleasing and rural look to the women, to whom it also affords a convenient and easily-procured protection from the sun. The wreaths are usually composed of the Cape Jasmine and *Rosa Sinensis*, the latter of which is often stuck through the lobes of their ears, and in their glossy black hair.

The natives of both sexes seem passionately fond of flowers, but the use of these in dress has been discouraged by their teachers, who have taught them that such vanities are unbecoming to Christians. I am at a loss to understand why so innocent a pleasure should not have been encouraged rather than discountenanced. In conformity with this opinion, the absence of flowers around the missionaries' dwellings is universal, and cannot fail to be remarked in a climate where the plants most admired in their own country, as exotics, are of almost spontaneous growth.

Cooking and eating occupy but a small portion of their time. The latter indeed is performed with more of the air of a business which requires despatch, than any thing else they do. Their food consists principally of bread-fruit, taro, banana, vi-apple (*Spondias*), oranges,