

mond of the Mission resides. Taati, who has been named as one of the great chiefs, has his usual abode here, but was absent on a visit to the ships. Mr. Orsmond was kind enough to offer to such of the party as felt too much fatigued to proceed farther on foot, a passage to Papieti in his boat.

The coral reef is interrupted in front of the small bay which makes up to Papara, and the surf dashes with some violence against the shore; but the passage, except for a short distance, was made within the reef, and in smooth water.

As Taati was absent, one of his sons, (and he is reported to have a dozen,) did the honours of the house, and provided them with breakfast. This consisted of pig, taro, and bread-fruit, the standing dishes of Tahiti. The table was covered with a cloth made of Russia sheeting, and furnished with plates, cups and saucers, knives, forks, and spoons.

In this place, also, a large portion of the population, and particularly of the women, assembled to have a look at the strangers. It was remarked that there was more beauty among the young girls than they had before seen upon the island. Many of them had their heads gaily and tastefully ornamented with flowers.

On leaving Papara they were accompanied by a bevy of these gay damsels, laughing and enjoying themselves with each other, and with the guides. The latter had also stuck the scarlet *Rosa Sinensis* through the lobes of the ears, and decorated their heads with wreaths after the manner of the girls.

At Papara, the coast begins to wind to the northwest, and gradually inclines more to the northward. Their route again lay along the Broom Road, which extends completely around the island. It is in places almost arched over by trees, that grow on each side of it, and form a delightful shade. It may be termed a national work, and but for its want of width, would bear comparison with many of the turn-pikes in the United States. The streams which intersect it have all been once crossed by good bridges of plank, but these are now going to decay.

At short intervals are groves of cocoa-nut trees, planted along the road; these are called the queen's, and travellers are at liberty to help themselves to the fruit. The private groves whose fruit it is wished to protect, are tabooed. This is indicated by tying a girdle of leaves around them, and this simple signal is still respected, although the superstition on which its sanctity was founded has ceased to prevail. The natives travel a great deal on this road, and some use it in going