

Circumcision is practised among them.

They carry their children in the same singular manner on the hip, as was shown in wood-cut of the low archipelago. They are early betrothed, without regard to age, the girl being *saa*, or tabooed, until of marriageable age. During the intervening time, all kinds of native property are accumulated, such as mats, &c., for the bridal day. Two days previous to it, the inhabitants of the district are gathered together for feasting and dancing. On the third day, the bride is produced before the assembled multitude, and the ceremony attendant on marriage that was customary among the Jews performed. After the marriage had been consummated, the dowry was exhibited, and each article being held up it was proclaimed by whom it was presented; the multitude, having consumed all the eatables, and exhausted their strength in rioting and debauchery, dispersed.

Infanticide has never been practised on this island.

I have seldom seen a more devout or attentive collection of people than I observed at times in the church meeting, which was held in the council-house at Pago-pago; the new church was undergoing alterations; for on its being completed, it was found it would not accommodate the congregation, when they determined to enlarge it.

Upon the conclusion of a long service, they were observed to divide themselves into three parties; one remaining in the church, and the other two repairing to different buildings. The object of this was, that they might listen to instructions from their native teachers explanatory of the sermon, and also receive exhortations to put away all that is unbecoming to the Christian character. The afternoon is employed in further explanations and examinations by the missionaries. The native missionaries have also meetings on Fridays.

Their mode of singing hymns is peculiar, the whole mass joining in some parts, with all the lungs they could muster. This exercise appeared to afford them great delight. The congregation were mostly dressed in *tapas*, or clothed in one sort of garment or other; but the person who attracted our attention most, was the consort of *Pomale*. From being the wife of the most influential personage, she had received more presents from us than any other; and she endeavoured, on this occasion, to display on her person the greater part, if not all, that she had thus acquired. These consisted of a red calico gown, four or five petticoats of different colours, woollen socks, green slippers, cap and bonnet, a large plaid blanket shawl, and a pair of polar gloves, the whole surmounted by a flaming red silk umbrella—and this with the thermometer at 87°! It was difficult to keep our eyes off her during the service, and before the end of it, all her finery became