

allowed to smoke, although they use large quantities of ava, made of the *Piper mythicum*, which has more intoxicating and deleterious effects than tobacco. So singular an interdiction of the one, with the free use of the other, induced me to ask Mr. Tucker the reason of it, and why, if they had only the power to prevent the use of one, they did not prohibit the most pernicious? The only answer I got was, that it would be a pity to break up their ava circles. I believe that few rise from them without being somewhat stupified, but it does not amount to actual intoxication. The manner in which these natives use tobacco is one of the most pleasing of their social customs, and shows an absence of all selfishness; it is the same as at the Samoan Group, where the person who lights a pipe seldom gets more than two whiffs of its contents, as it is immediately passed around.

As a people they may be termed warlike; and war-councils, making speeches, and drinking ava, may be called the business of their lives.

The women are said to be virtuous; their employments are to make tapa, mats, baskets, &c., and do the housework. The men cultivate the ground, and fish. The females are more in the habit of using lime-water and lime on their hair than those we have seen elsewhere. This application turns it red, but its chief use is to promote cleanliness. Of the ingenuity of the men we saw many proofs, in their manufacture of boxes, baskets, and miniature canoes.

The last day I visited Nukualofa, Mr. Tucker was kind enough to take me to see Tamahaa, the aunt of Tui Tonga, who is considered of divine origin, for which reason great respect and honours are paid her. It is said that she has great influence with the heathen, although being a convert, she is favourable to the Christian side. As a token of the great respect with which she is regarded, it was remarked that the natives never turn the back upon her until at thirty or forty feet distance, and never eat in her presence. She is old enough to remember the arrival of Cook when she was a child. We found her sitting in her house, with a child who could just walk, (both enclosed in a rolled screen, before described,) whom she was feeding with cocoa-nut pulp. We shook hands and sat some time with her, making many inquiries about the former persons of the island, which the entertaining volumes of Dr. Martin, relating the adventures of Mariner, had made me acquainted with. She seemed to know Togi Uummea, the name by which Mariner was known, and also most of the people mentioned in Mariner's account.

On a visit to the missionaries, I found Tubou or King Josiah, who had been sitting for his picture, and had fallen fast asleep. Wishing to get some information from him, I felt desirous of waking him up,