

named Thompson, who was married to Kaiha, a female chief, was going to Hawaii, having on board many passengers, on getting into the straits between Maui and Hawaii the schooner foundered, and all on board, forty-five in number, were obliged to take to swimming for safety. Thompson could swim but little, but his wife was quite expert in the art; she promptly came to his aid, placed him on an oar, and swam for the shore. The accident occurred on Sunday about noon, when she with many others began to swim for the nearest land, which was Kahoolawe. She continued to support her husband until Monday morning, when he died from exhaustion, and she did not succeed in reaching the shore until that afternoon. She clung to him to the last, at the imminent risk of her own life, and was thirty hours in the water; she was met by some fishermen on landing, who took charge of, and brought her back to Maui.

I have also been told that there are many instances of such deep attachment among the Hawaiians, and that in former times widows and widowers have been known to commit suicide, or pine away with grief at the loss of their partners. Similar evidences of affection and attachment were also exhibited between parents and children.

Notwithstanding the instances of this kind, I must say from my own observation, that I should not be inclined to believe there is much natural affection among them; nor is there apparently any domestic happiness. Thus, it is not an unusual thing for a husband to tell you he has whipped his wife, because she has eaten up all his *poe* and fish. Formerly their laws of taboo were calculated to produce any thing but a kindly feeling towards the female sex; nor is it contended that they were of much if any consequence, if they were not of the highest class. These, as has already been mentioned, have great influence over the acts of government.

At the time of the advent of the missionaries, marriage was hardly known among them, and all the rules they observed, in relation to sexual intercourse, were a few regulating the extent of their licentiousness. From tradition, however, it is believed that the marriage tie was more regarded prior to the discovery of the island than since. Yet it is good evidence that this tie produced no greater happiness, or rather that they did not look to it as a source of happiness, when it is found that none of their songs, elegies, or other poetic effusions, have any allusion to it; nor are there any terms in the language to express connubial bliss.

The natives of this group generally show very little attachment to their children. All classes of females are unwilling to be burdened with the trouble of them, and, whenever it is possible, commit them