

are principally occupied in fishing and the manufacture of salt, which articles are bartered with those who live in the more fertile regions of the south, for food and clothing.

Some knowledge of the arts has been acquired, and the mass of the people manifest much ingenuity in the manufacture of various articles for convenience and comfort. A few have shown some skill in carpentry, having acquired this knowledge entirely by looking on and practising. Some have in the same way acquired the art of laying stone; and the large house of Governor Adams, heretofore spoken of, was entirely built by natives, under the superintendence of a foreigner. Others have been entirely erected by native workmen. Some have also become blacksmiths, and comb-makers, and a large number of native women are employed in making palm-leaf hats, which are of good quality.

Governor Adams intends that his cotton manufactures shall supersede European goods. Such undertakings cannot but excite interest in all who are looking to the general improvement and civilization of the islands of Polynesia. Like all first attempts at manufacturing, it was attended with difficulties; and as it may possess interest with some, I will give an account of its progress.

In 1837 an edifice of stone was erected, using mud instead of lime-mortar, for the proposed works, thirty by sixty feet, with a thatched roof, and well lighted with glazed windows. About twenty wheels were made by natives, after a model furnished by a foreign carpenter, except the wheel-heads, which were of American manufacture. A small Chinese gin was employed to free the cotton of the seeds, only a trifle better than using the fingers; the cards were imported from the United States. Thus prepared, the work went into operation on the 1st of January, 1838.

Three females, who had made a tolerable proficiency in the art of spinning, and had been taught by the American missionaries residing at Maui, were procured as teachers. Under these, thirty women and girls, from ten to forty years of age, began spinning; they soon equalled their teachers, and many of the younger ones excelled them.

Two looms and other necessary apparatus were next procured, and also a foreigner to teach the use of them. He was engaged for several months in the establishment, during which time he had under his instruction four young men, with whom he wove several pieces of brown stripes and plaids, plain and twilled cotton cloth. After this time, the natives were able to prepare and weave independently of his aid. Becoming dissatisfied, however, all left the work, together with the foreigner; but after some time they were induced to return to their