

hanging nearly to the ground, completed their costume. During the presentation, the females took off their evergreen scarfs and wreaths, and placed them upon our gentlemen, quickly getting others for themselves.

The attendants were in great numbers; each of them had one of these wreaths hanging from one shoulder to the opposite hip.

The table was spread with a white cloth, and just enough plates to accommodate the guests. Our gentlemen, however, insisted that the host and hostess, with their daughters, should sit down with them; and knives and forks being brought, they all joined the feast. The dinner consisted of pig, pork, roast turkey, and luau fowls, sweet-potatoes, taro, &c.; the meats were divided into eight courses, and most of them were deliciously cooked; for dessert, they had watermelons and bananas. The entertainment went off well. At three o'clock part of the officers returned on board, while the rest went with the young women, by invitation, to bathe.

A few days afterwards this compliment was reciprocated, Kanuha and his household dining on board. They were highly delighted with the attentions and ceremonies, which were all quite new to them, as neither the missionaries nor residents ever receive natives at their table, not even the king. Their behaviour was quite decorous, and they seemed to enjoy every thing that was set before them, particularly the wine.

Pea and his family were also guests. Pea is the king's agent, and has charge of the fish-ponds, although he is not chief of the district: he speaks some English, and is under the patronage of the missionaries; he lives on the Waiakea side, in a large grass-house, near the fish-ponds. The latter cover many acres, and have a great many fine mullet in them, very few of which are caught, as they are reserved for the king or his representative Pea, and his family. From this cause, the fish have multiplied to a great number, and are in very fine order for the table.

Kanuha is the representative of Governor Adams, who is the ruler of the five districts of Hawaii, of which Hilo is one. Adams had been in Hilo shortly before our arrival, but was not able to remain, and is so enormously unwieldy, that it is with difficulty he can move about. Kanuha collects all the taxes, acts as magistrate, and from all accounts is a very energetic one.

I have before spoken of the fruitfulness of this side of the island of Hawaii: the sugar-cane grows here in abundance, and of a large size; coffee succeeds well, as do indigo and the tacca, from which they make a quantity of arrow-root.