

island to quit it; but no persuasion could prevail on them to do so; and it is said that this feeling has existed to such an extent there, that the young women have refused to marry, unless under a pledge that they shall not be required to remove. The people of Hawaii consider themselves superior to those of the other islands; next to them rank the natives of Maui and Oahu, while Kauai is looked upon as the most inferior. It was likewise mentioned that some individuals have come forward to ask to exchange plots that had been assigned to them, for those on which their fathers had resided, or where they were born.

I was much amused to hear that when one of the teachers of the seminary gave out to the class as a theme, "Whether it was right for parents to give away their children," all belonging to it took the affirmative side! It is not to be supposed that their reasons were very strong, but it was said the principal one urged was the difficulty of travelling with them, and procuring food; this practice having prevailed from time immemorial, they no doubt endeavoured to find reasons to justify it.

In the opinion of a native, the most distant relationship or connexion, justifies him in calling on and receiving entertainment. They not only consider that they have a right to partake of the hospitality, but speak of it as a great convenience; so that in choosing a wife or husband, one who has many relations is a more desirable match on this account than one who has few. This custom also causes more intercourse between the islands than would otherwise take place, and their small vessels seldom pass from one to the other, without being well filled with passengers.

Among the visits I paid at Lahaina, was one to the regent Kekauloahi, who receives visitors during certain hours of the day. She lives in a grass-hut near the water, and has several chiefs in attendance on her: she appears to be a good-natured and contented person, and has adopted some foreign customs in her way of living. She is not spoken of as being equal to her sister, Kaahumanu or Kinau.

It has been mentioned, that on our passage from Hilo we had not found the shoal said to exist off Kahoolawe. Receiving authentic information that it really existed, I determined to send two boats, under the command of Lieutenant Budd and Passed Midshipman May, to seek for and examine it. The king, learning my intentions, volunteered to send his yacht along with them. The yacht and boats set out on this expedition, on the 17th of March, with a pilot who knew the ground.

On the same day we took leave of our kind friends, and at noon got