

the 21st of January. The appearance of things at Papieti seemed very much as they had been twelve months before; but some events had occurred during the year, which it will be as well to notice, as they will show how things are conducted, and give an insight into the conduct of royalty that was little dreamed of by us on our former visit.

On the 7th of May, one of the unhappy domestic feuds of the royal family threw the whole of Papieti into a ferment. The queen, followed by all her attendants, with great lamentations, rushed into a foreigner's house, to escape from her royal consort, who was pursuing her, uttering dreadful menaces. The facts of the quarrel, as derived from authentic sources, are as follows. As Pomare was on her way to Papieti from her residence at Papaoa, she was met by Pomare-tai riding furiously. Owing to the turn of the road, he did not perceive the queen's party in time to stop, and ran over one of the maids, knocking her down, and bruising her. Pomare, attributing the accident to his being intoxicated, began to abuse him in opprobrious terms. Enraged at it, he dismounted, and began not only to abuse, but also to strike her. Not content with this, he caught her by the hair, threw her down, and attempted to strangle her, which he was only prevented from doing by the attendants, who held him until Pomare fled for her life. Disappointed in overtaking her, he hurried to her new palace at Papieti, and vented his anger by demolishing the windows, breaking open her boxes and trunks, and tearing her wardrobe and finery to pieces,—thus doing injury to the amount of some two thousand dollars.

On the perpetration of this outrage, the queen at first declared her intention of summoning the judges and suing for a divorce; but soon changed her mind, and forgave her husband on his promising future good behaviour.

Although this may appear extraordinary conduct on the part of the king-consort, yet when one learns that the queen has been in the habit of giving him a sound cudgelling, even on the highway, his conduct is not so surprising, particularly as it is said that she administered her punishments with such earnestness and force that he would not be likely soon to lose the remembrance of them.

These broils in the royal family may, I believe, be justly charged to the foreign residents whom I have spoken of before as being the authors of them, for they administer to his depraved appetite in order to derive pecuniary advantage from these disturbances.

On the 11th of May, a great meeting of the district schools took place at Papaoa. This had been in prospect for several weeks, and every one was anxious for the event. The procession to the chapel was the great scene of display: here the orator of the day was to offi-