

went out in search of a fish called "olua," which is represented as a fathom in length; if this fish could not be found, a man, who had broken the taboo, was hooked in the mouth, killed, and dragged to the altar; if the observance of the taboo had been very strict, and none was found delinquent, a squirrel was substituted, and was offered to the idol in like manner. If a man was sacrificed, the king took hold of one of the feet of both the hog and man, and thus presented them to the god, saying, "Here is my offering to you; let me live; let me have the country I desire to conquer." They then all retire and feast. A chief, called the "Turtle," then came forward, and prayed with uplifted hands. If any one offended by making a noise, he was instantly killed. The women afterwards brought their tax of tapa, which is put into the fifth house in the heiau.

On the seventh day, they all bathed; after which they were all clothed in new maros from the tapas; they then sat down in rows, placing themselves in various attitudes, with the hands raised up or placed on their shoulders, and each was obliged to remain in the same attitude until the ceremony of prayer was concluded. Afterwards eighty hogs were distributed among the people. They then repeat the "Aha" and the "Kaili," the prayers before spoken of; and the favourite wife of the king then came with a hog and fine mat, which she offered, with prayers and the "Amama," and requested that she might live and be preserved by the king.

On the eighth day, the whole ceremony was finished, all the taboo removed, and a general council of the chiefs held, as to the mode of carrying on the war, when they went to conquer the land they had sacrificed and prayed for. After the wars were ended, heiaus for peace and the prosperity of the kingdom were built, to insure fertility and plenty to the land.

#### IV.

[ Copy. ]

U. S. Ship Vincennes,  
October 31st, 1840.

CHARLES WILKES, Esq.,

Respected Sir—We, the undersigned, petty officers, seamen, ordinary seamen, &c., belonging to this ship, beg leave to request the particular favour, that after Peter Sweeny is punished, that he may be discharged from this ship and the Expedition. His conduct during the time he has been shipped, warrants us in saying, he is no sailor,