

Queen Pomare, and her country

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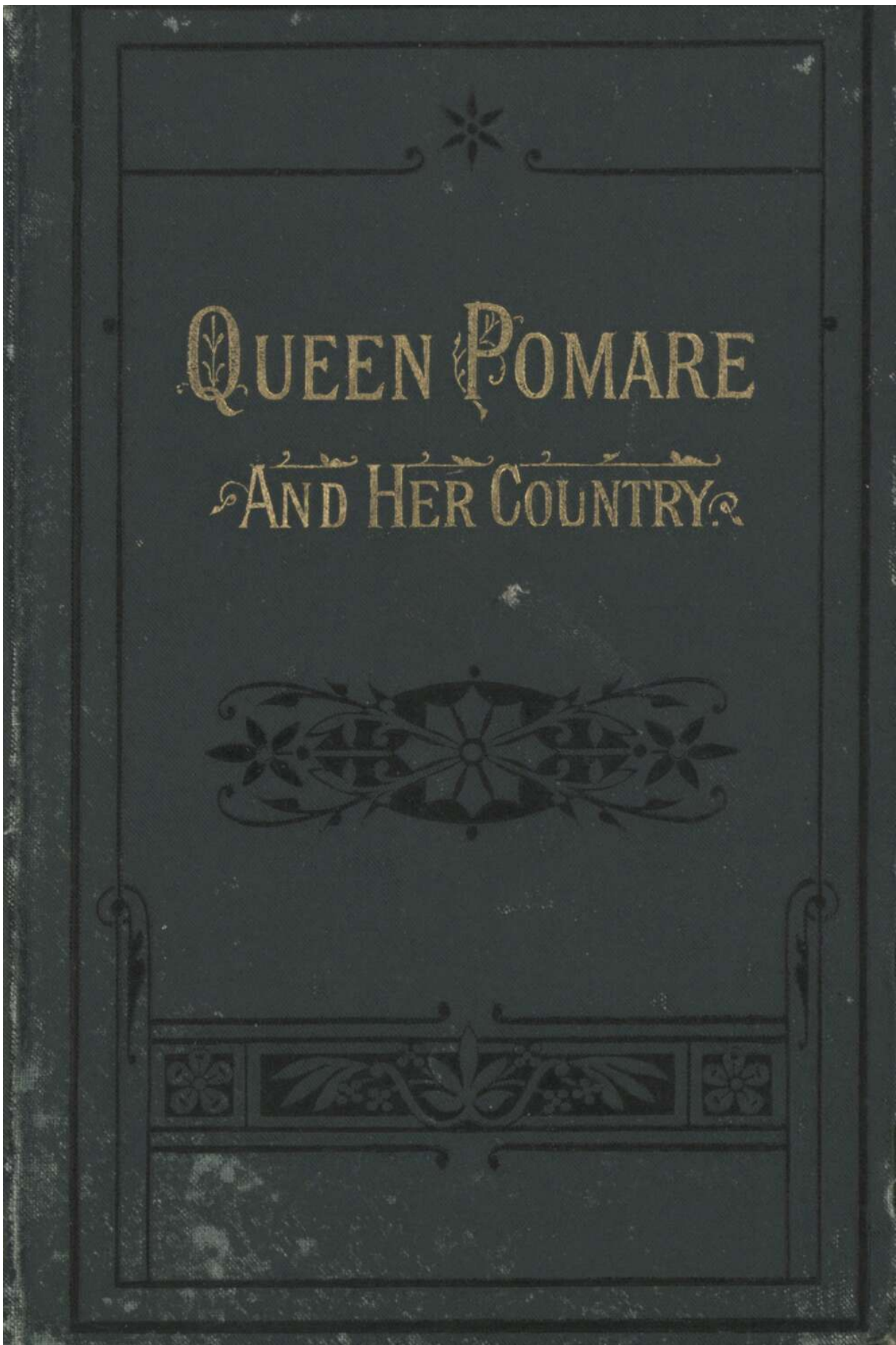
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To

Mrs L. Cooper

with

Rev Robert Robinson's
Christian Love
and good wishes.

August 17th 1880.

"The Joy of the Lord is
your strength"



QUEEN POMARE.

QUEEN POMARE

And her Country.

BY THE REV. GEORGE PRITCHARD,

Formerly Missionary and British Consul at Tahiti.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY THE REV. DR. ALLON.



THE LIGHT-HOUSE, POINT VENUS.

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INTRODUCTION.

MR. Pritchard has told the story of Pomare as no one else could have told it. His long residence in Tahiti as a Missionary of the London Missionary Society, and as British Consul, and his personal acquaintance with Pomare during the greater part of her life, gave him knowledge that no other European possesses. His presence in the Island, and his violent imprisonment at the time of the French seizure of Tahiti—the latter leading almost to war between England and France—may be thought unfavourable to an impartial narrative; and Mr. Pritchard has undoubtedly warm sympathies with Pomare—as I suppose almost every man in Europe acquainted with her wrongs has—but no one will read this little book, without

being struck with the restraint which the writer has put upon himself, and with his manifest determination to permit no exaggeration in his statements.

The portraiture of the Queen is a striking attestation of the deep religious hold upon the Tahitians which Christianity has taken. Few European sovereigns inheriting centuries of Christian traditions, could have borne such wrongs with so much religious patience, or have exhibited through the long years of her deposition such a noble Christian deportment. It is always interesting to see the first contacts with a people, of a new religious faith; and it is more than an answer to some of the strongest sceptical objections to Christianity to see how speedily, radically, and firmly it takes hold of the heart of a heathen people thus receiving it. The character of Pomare, and the fidelity of the Tahitians to the spiritual characteristics of Protestant Christianity—all the blandishments of the sensuous ritual of the

Church of Rome, and all the influences of French political power, notwithstanding—are equally surprising and assuring. The sufficient vindication of Christianity, now as heretofore, is its practical, moral, and religious power.

One could have wished that more detail of the Queen's private life and character had been furnished, and that somewhat more of background for the story told, could have been put in; but Mr. Pritchard has done the best with the materials at his disposal, and his simple narrative will be read with absorbing interest, and will in some degree revive sympathies that, when the events which are narrated occurred, excited the English people to passion.

Few nations are wholly free from the crime of violence and injustice in conquest, but the dastardly outrage on Pomare, in arbitrarily deposing her from her throne and taking possession of her country, without even the pretence of constructive wrong on her part, will be an

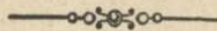
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abiding reproach. Some crimes, although not intrinsically worse than others, have yet characteristics of meanness, selfishness, and brutality, which give them a bad, and sometimes a historic pre-eminence. For a nation pluming itself on its gallantry and chivalry, to have seized the little territory of a helpless and unoffending woman—an Island in the Pacific Ocean for which it had no need even—merely to gratify a sentiment and resentment of European politics, is a crime of gratuitous heartlessness, which offends both the moral sense and the chivalrous sentiment of men, and will be remembered to the reproach of the French nation, even when some of the far greater crimes of Napoleon I. are forgotten.

HENRY ALLON.

QUEEN POMARE

AND HER COUNTRY.



It is probable that no royal personage in the whole of Polynesia has been more extensively known or more highly respected than Pomare, the late Queen of Tahiti. Many captains and officers, both of ships of war and of merchant vessels of various nationalities, have visited the lovely Island of Tahiti, during the last 50 years; and the almost universal testimony which these gentlemen have borne to the character of the late Queen has been of a favourable nature. True, there have been exceptions among them who have felt the simplicity and purity of her example and precept

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in both life and law to be a constant reproof to the contrast which their conduct presented, and a check upon the irregularities which they practised at other places, but the general testimony has been greatly in favour of her Majesty, both as regards her public and private character. Friends of Missions have long been familiar with the name of Pomare, and have deeply sympathized with her in the numerous and heavy trials she has been called to endure, and perhaps among these no one has evinced a truer sympathy, or expressed more sincere sorrow than our own beloved Sovereign, Queen Victoria.

At the suggestion and in compliance with the wishes of several of these friends, the writer has consented to draw up the following brief memoir. Having lived on the Island of Tahiti himself in the capacity of Missionary and British Consul for a period of 20 years in daily familiar intercourse with the Queen from her childhood, and after her marriage, with her consort and children likewise, he, during that time and also during many subsequent years, spent on neighbouring Islands, has had opportunities for gathering up many facts and

obtaining much information which cannot fail to be acceptable to those who feel an interest in "Tahiti and her Queen;" while to those who know little or nothing of her, it may serve as an introduction to one who has maintained her character for steadfastness to the truth amidst much prevailing opposition, has been faithful unto death and has now (we believe) received the crown of life.

Pomare was born on the 23rd February, 1813. Her mother was the daughter of the King of Raiatea. About the time of her birth her father, Pomare II., embraced Christianity, and hence the heathen customs, usual on the birth of a royal infant, were not observed. In former times no fires were allowed to be lighted for many days, except at a great distance from the dwelling of the child. No boat was allowed to leave the shore, and no persons were permitted to approach the royal babe, saving sacred persons, and these must be dressed in sacred clothes. Pomare told the Missionaries he wished his baby to be brought up like an English child. The young princess was called Aimata. During her early years she

was much with the Missionaries, who, in accordance with the King's wish, endeavoured to make her acquainted with the manners and customs of the English, but not only so, they also instructed her in the Christian religion. When Aimata was old enough she went to school and improved rapidly. In the month of June, 1820, an important event occurred in the royal family, the then Queen became the mother of a little boy. The King was much pleased with his little son, and expressed his wish that no person but Mrs. Crook (the wife of one of the Missionaries) should touch the infant. She took it and dressed it according to English custom, but as she could not always attend to it, the sister of the Queen became the baby's nurse, though it was generally at the house of Mrs. Crook, who was called its mother, because she had the principal charge of it. Little Mary Crook employed herself in making clothes for the young prince. When Aimata was eight years of age, her father, Pomare II., was removed by death. He died on December 7th, 1821. The government was carried on for a little more than two years by Aimata's mother and aunt. In



December, 1822, Aimata was united in marriage to a descendant of an ancient race of kings, who formerly reigned in the Island of Tahaa. He was an orphan, and had been committed to the care of the pious King, who then reigned over Tahaa. It was hoped that as he had received a Christian education, and appeared to be well disposed that he would prove a worthy husband for the young princess. It was arranged that the young man should meet his betrothed bride in the Island of Huahine, which belonged to Aimata's aunt. The young man arrived first, attended by many chiefs and the King of Tahaa. Aimata came in a ship belonging to her little brother, accompanied by her mother and aunt, and was received on the beach by the Regent and other important persons. She was conducted by them to the house where the intended husband was waiting to receive her, dressed in native style. He neither rose nor spoke when Aimata entered; she sat down by her mother and aunt, and remained quite silent. This first meeting lasted 20 minutes, during which time not a word was spoken by either of them. They were to be

married by mutual consent, but there was reason to fear the marriage would not prove a happy one, for they were both very young, and strangers to each other, and were in several points of opposite characters; the youth being as grave and reserved as the young princess was gay and open. The marriage ceremony took place a few days after their first meeting, and was performed in the chapel at noon. Mr. Ellis and Mr. Barff, the Missionaries at Huahine, took their station behind the communion table before the pulpit. The youthful pair stood opposite, and the friends of each were ranged on either side. Aimata was dressed in an English white gown and a pink scarf with a bonnet made of white bark, trimmed with white ribbons. The ladies who attended her were dressed in the English fashion, but the chiefs wore their native clothing. A tear was observed in Aimata's eye during the service. This tear was the evidence of a feeling which, had she been a heathen, would have had no existence, for, having been instructed in the Mission Schools, she had been made aware of the holy nature of a promise. After the vows had been made and the blessing

pronounced, the marriage was recorded in a book. The day was concluded by a feast, in which the name of God was not forgotten, and no rioting or excess was permitted. How different was this Christian marriage from those of the natives in former times. The heathen used to make vows of fidelity in their temples, but they never kept them, although the skulls of their forefathers were often brought out and ranged before the young couple, and though their mothers wounded themselves with shark's teeth and stained a cloth with their blood mingled together,—modes of confirming a vow, practised in the days of heathenism. Christianity has banished these abominable customs from many of the lovely Islands in the Pacific, and has conferred unnumbered blessings on many thousands of the natives who have embraced it. The youthful pair afterwards removed to Tahiti, where they lived in a house of their own at Papaoa, near the dwellings of the rest of the royal family, and near the Royal Mission Chapel; but the union, as might be expected, did not prove a happy one, being simply the fulfilment of an early betrothal and not the

result of a sincere affection on the part of either of them; the consequence was, the young man soon returned to his own friends at Borabora. The chiefs, anxious to secure an hereditary and undisputed claim to the crown, urged upon Aimata the desirability of a second marriage.

In 1824 the young Prince, Aimata's brother, though very young, was crowned King Pomare III., and governed by a Regency. The day appointed for the coronation was April 21st, 1824. At the close of the service pardon was proclaimed to all who were under punishment from the law; the banished were permitted to return, and the prisoners were set free. The father of this young Prince had been proclaimed king according to the heathen custom, not by being crowned, but by being wrapped in a girdle covered with red feathers; and this ceremony had been attended by the slaughter of men, and had been followed by the worshipping of the king as a god, as he sat in the Marae (temple) in company with Oro, the god of war, and Hiro, the god of thieves. How happy was this little Prince, whose coronation, instead of being stained with blood, was attended

by the opening of the prison doors, and with prayer and praise to the living God. A school having been established for the children of the Missionaries, the young King became a scholar. He made great progress in his learning, and showed such good dispositions that the missionaries fondly hoped he would become a blessing to his kingdom, but they were disappointed in their expectations. When six years and a half old, he was attacked by a complaint that prevailed in the Islands at that time and became dangerously ill. He lingered only three weeks. He died in the arms of Mr. Osmond, his affectionate teacher. Thus God cut off with a stroke the desire of many hearts, and the hope of a nation. His remains were deposited in the family vault in the Royal Mausoleum at Papaoa. In January, 1827, shortly after the death of her brother, Aimata was proclaimed Queen, and assumed the name of Queen Pomare IV. Her Majesty was only 14 years of age when she commenced her reign. She continued to live at Papaoa in a neat plastered house, situated beneath the shade of a lovely grove. It was not called a palace, but the Royal residence.

The Rev. Henry Nott continued to be her teacher. She could read and write well and was considered very clever, but in her youth was not so serious or steady as to set a good example to her subjects. In December, 1832, Queen Pomare married a second time, and in the early part of 1833 there was a rebellion instigated by some of the chiefs and people who were not pleased with this marriage. The rebels were soon conquered by the loyal party, and when peace was established the places of worship and the schools were attended as formerly. For a short time this civil war had thrown many of the congregations into great disorder, thereby causing the Missionaries much grief. About this time many ships called at Tahiti with abundance of spirits to sell, or to barter with the natives for the produce of the Island, consequently drunkenness became very prevalent. The Missionaries, at their respective stations, recommended the establishment of Temperance Societies, in the hope of inducing the people to leave off the use of spirits. In August, 1833, Mr. Nott took a sheet of paper and wrote his own name, and very soon obtained a hundred others in his district as abstainers.

At that time the Queen was at Eimeo, the neighbouring Island. Mr. Nott sent a messenger with a letter entreating her Majesty to set an example of temperance to her subjects by permitting her name to appear on the paper. She sent a message in reply to the effect that she would consider the subject. Feeling persuaded that the Queen's example would be followed by very many, the Missionaries were very desirous of obtaining her name.

One evening, when Mr. Nott and some of his people were assembled for worship, a messenger entered the chapel, his countenance beaming with joy. He surprised the people by exclaiming,—“Brethren and sisters, rejoice with me.” All eyes were fixed upon him. He then added, “I say rejoice with me, because the Queen has given me orders to tell ‘Notte’ (Rev. Mr. Nott), to add her name to those who belong to the Temperance Society.” This news was received with great delight by all. Much good resulted from the establishment of these Societies. In the same year, 1833, a British ship of war arrived at Tahiti, having on board all the inhabitants of Pitcairn's Island, 87 in num-

ber. They were the descendants of the mutineers who landed on that Island in 1790 from H.M.S. *Bounty*, commanded by Captain Bligh. They were the children of English fathers and Tahitian mothers. The *Bounty* had been sent by the British Government to Tahiti to obtain plants of the bread-fruit tree and convey them to the West Indies. On leaving Tahiti the crew took away six men and twelve women (native) who went with them to Pitcairn, where they remained for several years without being heard of. As their numbers increased they found the resources of the Island to be inadequate for their support, and made application to the British Government to remove them. In compliance with this request they were removed to Tahiti. Queen Pomare gave them a very kind reception, cheerfully giving up a large house of her own for their use, which proving insufficient for their accommodation, several of the Chiefs made room for them in their dwellings. A large tract of rich land was also marked out as a desirable territory for their future residence. At a meeting of the Chiefs of the district, the Queen formally announced that

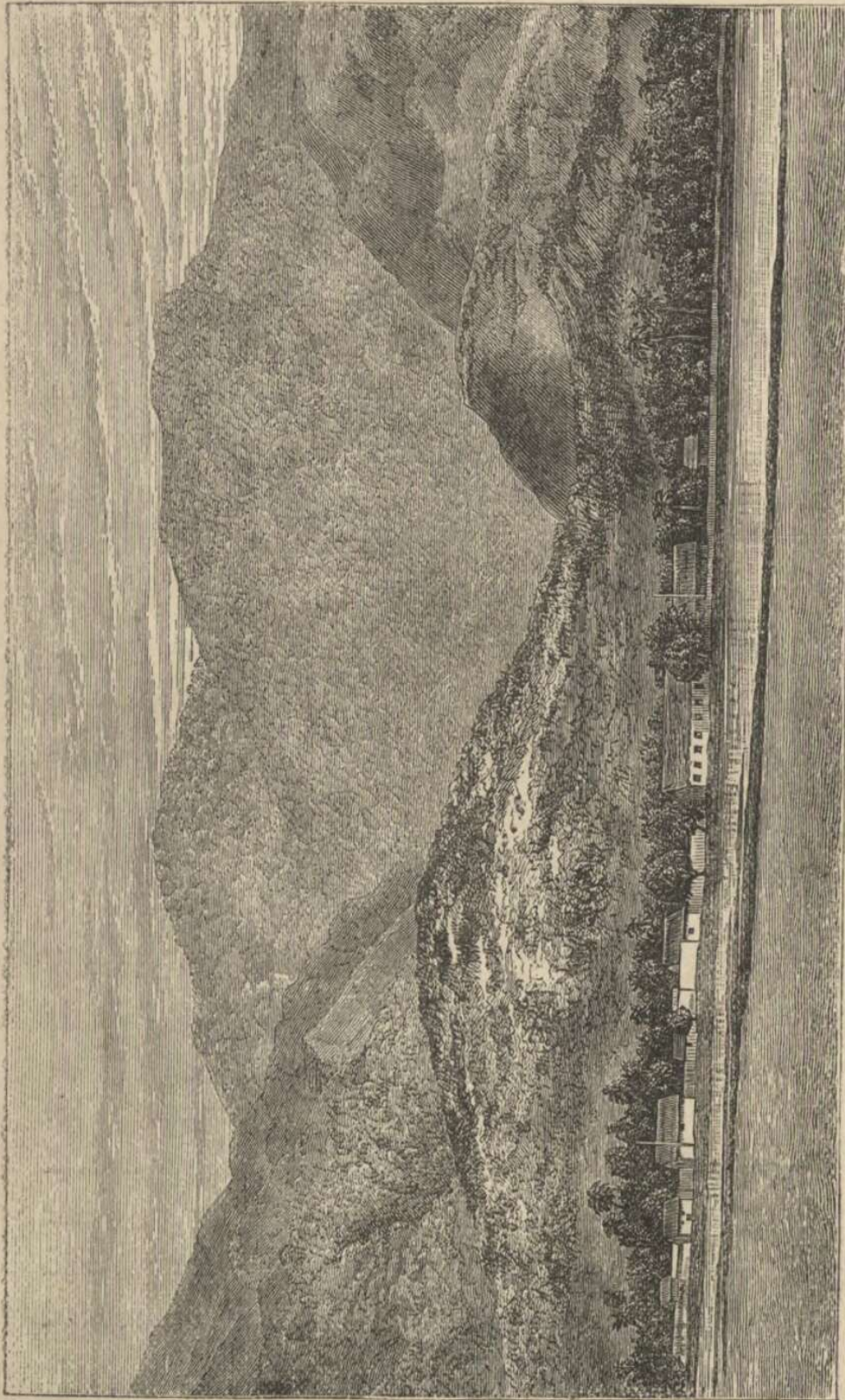
she had assigned that portion of land to her guests from Pitcairn, and at the same time gave directions to her people immediately to commence the construction of houses for her newly arrived friends. Her Majesty's kind disposition led her to feel much pleasure in shewing hospitality to strangers. The Pitcairn Islanders, however, did not remain long under Queen Pomare's fostering care. Their health suffered in the new climate. Sickness became prevalent among them, and in a short time twelve of their number died. Owing to this, and their love for their own country, they became very anxious to return to their old home, and after residing in Tahiti for six or seven months they went back to their loved little Isle.

In the end of the summer of 1835 there was a considerable religious awakening, and many were converted in various parts of the Island, more especially by the preaching of Mr. Nott at Papaoa. Among those who were at that time awakened were some of the Royal family. The Queen, her husband and her mother, all desired to be admitted to the church. The Queen and her husband wrote to Mr. Nott, stating the reasons why they

wished to become communicants. They were all three soon afterwards permitted to assemble round the table of the Lord to commemorate the Saviour's dying love.

The Queen now manifested a great desire that her people should be instructed and converted. She herself engaged in teaching poor little girls to read, and thus set an example to others of her subjects. In February, 1836, Mr. Nott sailed for England for the purpose of carrying the whole of the Tahitian Bible through the press. The Papaoa Station, where the Royal family resided, was now without a Missionary, consequently they removed to my Station, Papeete, the principal Port, a large and beautiful harbour with safe anchorage for vessels of any size.

Ships of war visiting Tahiti anchored there. The British Government had sent a ship of war to this port annually (until the occupation of Tahiti by the French), with presents for Pomare and other members of the Royal family. It was the custom of the commanders of those vessels to invite the Queen and a few of the principal Chiefs to dine on board, when most of the officers had



TOWN OF PAPEETE, TAHITI.

the honour of joining the party. On one of these occasions, when all were seated at a large temporary table on the quarter deck, the Captain at the head of the table, the Doctor at the opposite end, with the Queen at the Captain's right hand, and, as he could not speak Tahitian, nor Pomare English, I, as her Majesty's Chaplin and interpreter, sat at the Captain's left hand. After the Captain had served the Queen and several members of the Royal family, he perceived that not one had commenced eating; he then turned to me and said, "I am afraid we have made a great mistake in providing for this company. I thought as this Island was noted for pork, they would like a sucking pig, but not one of them appears disposed to touch it." I replied, "You could not have got anything they would like better; the reason why none have commenced eating is this,—the natives are accustomed to ask a blessing before each meal." The Captain then said to me, "Mr. Pritchard, do say grace," and no sooner had I "said grace," than the Queen and the other natives gave good proof that they liked what had been provided for them. The Captain then looked

to the other end of the table and said " Doctor, we have got it to-day," then, turning to me, said, " Now, Mr. Pritchard, you see what a graceless set we are." May we not hope that the conduct of the natives at the dinner table that day taught the Captain and his officers a lesson, reminding them of a home custom they ought not to have forgotten.

Prior to the French taking forcible possession of Tahiti, Queen Pomare and the principal Chiefs, with the most intelligent of the inhabitants, used to meet annually to hold a friendly conference ; the object of the meeting was to consider what plans could be adopted for the benefit of the Islands, both in a temporal and spiritual point of view. On one of these occasions her Majesty sent for a Bible, and had it placed on the table before the chairman. Just as they were about to commence, her secretary stood up, and addressing the assembly, said, " Queen Pomare has requested me to fetch the word of God, and put it where you can all see it. It is her wish that whatever comes before you to-day for consideration, you should first ask, ' Is it in accordance with that

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Book?' If it be, adopt it, but if not in accordance with that Book, discard it." From the time the Queen became a member of the Mission Church, in 1835, she was very regular in her attendance on the means of grace. She was seldom absent from the Bible-class, the prayer-meetings, or the preaching of the Gospel. She was fond of sacred music, and was herself a good singer. Two of her maids in waiting were also good singers, and these three formed a part of my choir in the mission Church at Papeete. None appeared to take greater interest in the service of praise than these three, the Queen herself occasionally setting the tune in the absence of the leader. Up to this time the places of worship were well attended, the schools were full, and everything in connection with the Protestant Mission was in a condition of prosperity, when an event occurred which not only put the sincerity of her Christian profession to the test, but threatened to disturb the peace and check the prosperity of herself, her family, and her dominions at large. On the 21st of November, 1836, a small vessel arrived at Tahiti, bringing from Gambier's Island two

Frenchmen (Roman Catholic Priests). One of the Port regulations prohibited any master of a vessel landing a passenger, with a view of remaining on the Island, without the permission of the Queen and the Governors. These priests, to evade the prohibition, and to avoid the native police, landed on the opposite side of the Island, from whence they walked to Papeete, the Port and seat of Government. At all the villages through which they passed they told the natives they had come out of compassion to them, because the English Missionaries were deceiving them, and they had come to teach them the truth; that the Church of Rome is the only true Church, and by joining that they were sure to be saved. As soon as they arrived at Papeete, they immediately put themselves under the protection of the American Consul, who, being favourable to Roman Catholicism, promised to protect them. The Queen, Governors, and principal Chiefs assembled to consult together, and consider what could be done in this unpleasant business consistently with the laws of nations. They maintained that as Queen Pomare was an independent sovereign, and

was acknowledged as such by all civilized nations, the Tahitian Government had a right to enact laws and to establish port regulations the same as more powerful Governments. The two Roman Catholic Priests and the Consul were requested to attend the meeting. Messengers were sent to them two or three times before they would condescend to attend. When at last they appeared they were informed by the speaker for the Queen and Chiefs that the two priests would not be allowed to remain on the Island. They were requested to return in the vessel which had brought them, as it was then about to return. The priests replied, "We will not go away, we will wait until a ship of war comes to establish us." The American Consul declared that the Tahitian Government had no right to enforce port regulations on strangers until those regulations had been sent to the various Governments of the civilized world and had received their sanction. The French are now in possession of Tahiti, and their port regulations are most rigidly enforced. Not a single person from a ship is allowed to sleep one night on shore without a permit, for which the

sum of two francs is demanded. The Queen, Governors and Chiefs, believing that if these priests remained much evil would arise, resolved to act in accordance with the laws which had long been in existence, and eventually they were put on board by force, but without the slightest injury either to their persons or property. On the 27th January, 1837, another vessel arrived from the same Island, with priests on board. Immediately after she had anchored, the Government sent on board a copy of the port regulations, begging the attention of the Captain to the fourth article, which referred especially to passengers. The Captain then wrote to the Queen, asking to be permitted to land his passengers. By this act he acknowledged the authority of the Tahitian Government. The permission was not granted, consequently they went on in the vessel to Valparaiso. One of the officers on board told me that there were two priests who wished to remain at Tahiti, but if they were not allowed to do so they were to proceed to Valparaiso.

Exaggerated statements of this transaction were at once forwarded to the French Government by

the priests and by their friend the American Consul. On the 29th August, 1838, the French frigate *Venus* came to an anchor in Papeete Harbour, commanded by Commodore A Du Petit Thouars. At ten o'clock the next morning the Commodore addressed an official letter to Queen Pomare, informing her Majesty that he was sent by the King of the French and his Government to reclaim and enforce, if necessary, immediate reparation due to a great power and a valiant nation. The Commodore demanded three things,—1st. That Queen Pomare should write a letter of apology to the King of the French. 2nd. That a sum of two thousand dollars should be paid to the cashier of the frigate as an indemnification for the two priests (Messrs. Lavel and Carret). 3rd. The French flag should be hoisted and saluted by the Tahitian Government with 21 guns. The Commodore declared that if these three demands were not fulfilled within 24 hours he would declare war and commence hostilities immediately throughout her Majesty's dominions, and this would be carried on by all the French vessels of war which would visit Tahiti, until the

French had obtained satisfaction. At that time the Queen was residing on the small Island in the Harbour, about half a mile from the main land. She had scarcely recovered from her accouchement, having given birth to a child about three weeks previously. The baby being unwell, the Rev. Mr. Barff and myself were in attendance, administering medicine, &c., when there came into the house, in a most unceremonious manner, a French officer in full uniform. He stood before the Queen with a paper in one hand and throwing the other about violently, was endeavouring to impress upon her, in broken English, that France was *one great nation*, and that France had 60 frigates, all like THAT, pointing to the "Venus" lying at anchor. Mr. Barff and I interpreted to the Queen the document she had just received. Her Majesty immediately resolved to go to the main land and consult with her Chiefs. In a short time she and her husband, with their little infant, followed us on shore, where they took refuge in my house. Her Majesty was thrown into a state of trembling anxiety; she knew not what to do. The large frigate had got her guns loaded and

run out, and all the men under arms ready for action, if the requisitions were not promptly fulfilled. The first thing the Queen did was to write to the Commodore, begging that he would allow an investigation to be made; stating that she had understood that it was the custom of civilized nations always first to try the case, and then, if the person accused be found guilty, to inflict a punishment, or impose a penalty according to the enormity of the crime. I was intrusted with the letter in company with a member of the royal family to deliver it to the Commodore. We went on board the frigate, but the Commodore would not receive the letter, nor hear from me any explanation, but said if the requisitions were not fulfilled by ten o'clock the next morning, he should fire upon the settlement and carry devastation and death through the whole of her Majesty's dominions, and that each French ship that came would do the same until they had obtained sufficient reparation. He stamped his foot on the deck with anger, because the Queen had left the little Island. He had sent a guard to prevent her departure, but to his great morti-

fication found that she had gone. He also placed a guard round the Queen's little schooner, and laid an embargo on the shipping, that no vessel might go out till the business was settled. Thus this French Commodore thought it consistent with his duty and position to make the Queen a prisoner before the time had expired for the fulfilment of the requisitions.

The Commodore sent me a letter, offering his ship as an asylum for myself and family, stating that when he had commenced firing upon the Settlement the smoke would prevent their seeing my house, and perhaps they might not be able to fire clear of it. I told the officer who brought me the letter to give my compliments to the Commodore and say that I expected that flag (pointing to the English colours waiving over my Consulate) to protect me. As we knew that it was impossible for the natives to pay 2,000 dollars, a few friends (English and Americans) united with me in raising the money for the Queen, which was duly paid on board the "Venus." For this payment I now hold the receipt. The Queen wrote a few lines to the King of the French, which the Commodore under-

took to deliver to him. There was one requisition yet to be fulfilled ; this was to hoist the French flag on the Tahitian flag-staff and salute it with 21 guns ; but how was it to be done, as the natives had only powder enough for five guns. I stated to the Commodore that if he insisted upon 21 guns being fired he must find the powder, for none could be obtained elsewhere. He replied, " That does put me in *one difficult position*. If I give them powder it will perhaps be seen in *one paper* in France that I did give the Tahitians powder to salute my own flag." After hesitating a short time he said, " I will tell you what I can do, I will give some powder to you as British Consul, and you can do what you like with it." Thus did we have French powder with which to salute the French flag. Was it honoured by such an act ? Let the Commodore answer. But there was yet another difficulty. There were several large guns on the little Island in the harbour, but only one of them fit for use. The " Venus " had to lend several instruments with which to prepare the guns for firing. While the natives, with a few Englishmen to help them, were hard at

work at the guns, an Officer was sent from the frigate to my house requesting me to say to the Queen that the Commodore was much surprised that the French flag had not yet been saluted, and that if they did not commence the salute by 10 o'clock he should fire upon the town. The men succeeded in getting the guns ready only a few minutes before 10. Twenty-one guns were then fired. Thus were fulfilled the three requisitions made on these poor islanders in the name of *One great and valiant nation*. After this the Commodore summoned the Queen and all the principal Chiefs to a meeting, when he appointed M. Moerenhout as French Consul. The Queen objected to this appointment. She had had trouble enough with that gentleman already while he had been acting as American Consul. The Commodore became exceedingly angry, and said he should appoint him, and if her Majesty would not receive him as such he should consider it as a declaration of war. Queen Pomare said she did not object to there being a French Consul at Tahiti, but she objected to the person nominated. It was of little consequence what objec-

tions she or her Chiefs had against the appointment, the Commodore was determined to overrule them, perceiving he was just the man for the position, and that no one could be found so likely to forward the plans intended to be executed by arbitrary power in subverting the government of a helpless Queen. The next thing was to request the Queen to sign a Treaty which these gentlemen had prepared. Making some hesitation, they became pressing, when the Queen intimated that she would much rather not enter into any Treaty with the French. The Commodore was much displeased and said that they had power, therefore they should act upon it, whether her Majesty signed it or not. The purport of the Treaty was as follows:—"That there shall be perpetual peace and friendship between the French and the inhabitants of Tahiti. That the French, whatsoever may be their profession, shall come and go freely, establishing themselves and trade among all the islands which compose the government of Tahiti." The Queen objected to the expression "The French *whatsoever may be their profession shall establish themselves.*"

Pomare said she had no objection to Frenchmen coming as they had long been accustomed to do and establishing themselves as mechanics and merchants; but as they had Protestant Missionaries who had been there many years, and all her people were receiving instruction, she did not wish Roman Catholic priests to come and establish themselves in her dominions. The Commodore then, with an oath, declared that he did not care about their religion, that he should protect them not as priests, but as Frenchmen. As there appeared to be no alternative, the Queen at last, with great reluctance, signed the Treaty. The Commodore, with the assistance of his friend M. Moerenhout, whom he had appointed French Consul, having thus frightened Queen Pomare into a compliance with all his requisitions, sent on shore a barrel organ as a present to her Majesty, when a rather remarkable incident took place. Just as the men were carrying this grand present into the Queen's house, a strange loud cracking noise startled them all. The Queen and the people sitting around the door listened with astonishment, and upon examination found that two or three of

the posts in the framework of the house had split open almost from the top to the bottom. The natives considered this as ominous. One said to Pomare, "Ua riro to tatou hau"—Our kingdom is gone. Another said, "Ua afaa te hau." The kingdom is divided. All began to prophesy, and circumstances have since proved, that some of them conjectured correctly. Professedly to establish a good feeling Queen Pomare was invited to dine on board the "Venus." Her Majesty had no disposition to accept this invitation, she had had quite enough of the "Venus" and all connected with her. The Commodore and his friend having endeavoured in vain to coax the Queen into a compliance with their wishes, as their last resource came to me to beg that I would use *my* influence with her Majesty to go on board, and if she would consent they would salute her with 21 guns. I told these gentlemen that under existing circumstances they could scarcely expect the Queen to go on board. The Commodore replied, "She had better not be sulky and haughty, or it will be much worse for her, for we have power and shall let her know it." Only a short time

elapsed before the Queen knew by painful experience that the power of that *one great and valiant nation* was employed in subverting her throne and robbing her of her kingdom. The Commodore having succeeded in the principal object of his visit allowed her refusal to pass without further notice, and soon after took his departure. On his arrival in France he was immediately promoted for his important services in the South Seas. He was made Rear-Admiral, commanding the French fleet in the Great Pacific. In a few weeks after the "Venus" had left Tahiti the Queen and her principal Chiefs, under the conviction that they were still in danger through exposure to French intrigue and oppression, and remembering their long and friendly alliance with Great Britain, wrote to Queen Victoria, begging her Majesty would be graciously pleased to take the Islands under the special protection of the British Government. This letter was signed by Queen Pomare and four of her principal Chiefs. Queen Victoria, though deeply touched by this appeal, and manifesting her sympathy, was unable to render any assistance without assuming a right

of interference which might have proved dangerous to the interests of her own kingdom. Very soon after this letter had been sent to England, another French frigate arrived, "The Artimise," commanded by Capt. La Place. While sailing down the north-east side of the Island, standing too close in shore, she struck upon a sunken rock, and was injured to such a degree that had it not been for the prompt exertions of Capt. Ebrill (son-in-law to one of the Missionaries) and a large number of natives the vessel must have been lost. They succeeded in getting her into port, and the natives were employed pumping day and night to keep her from sinking, while every thing was taken ashore that they might heave her down and repair her. In a little more than two months the work was completed, during which time the captain, officers and crew had lived on shore, professedly on the most friendly terms with the natives. As soon as the vessel was again ready for sea the Captain called a meeting of the Chiefs, and insisted upon the Queen also being present. At this meeting Capt. La Place produced a document in which he demanded that a piece of ground

should be given at Papeete, the principal seaport, on which to build a Roman Catholic Chapel, and that a similar building should be erected in every station where there was a Protestant place of worship, and also demanding the free exercise of the Roman Catholic religion at Tahiti and in all the possessions of Queen Pomare. If the Queen would not sign that document he threatened to commence hostilities immediately. Rather than expose her lands and people to devastation and death, her Majesty was induced to give her signature. Shortly after this Queen Pomare and her family (having been repeatedly invited to visit the neighbouring Islands, Huahine, Raiatea, Tahaa and Borabora) left Tahiti for that purpose in the latter end of 1840, having appointed one of the Chiefs to act as Regent during her absence. Owing to my long residence in a tropical climate my health had become such as to make it necessary to visit my native country. Having obtained leave of absence for a short time, I sailed from Tahiti on the 2nd of February, 1841. The Royal family having gone to the leeward Islands, and I on my way to England, the French Consul, who

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had long been jealous of my influence with the natives, thought it was now a favourable time to carry out his desire of annexing Tahiti to France. He had long ere this declared to me that if the French did not take possession of Tahiti it should not be his fault. He began by working upon the feelings of the Regent, and two or three of the principal Chiefs, having them frequently at his house, and supplying them with as much brandy as they liked to drink, telling them that he saw plainly that foreigners did not regard the Tahitian Government nor the laws of the port, and intimated that if they would write a few lines to the King of France, his Majesty would send persons to manage for them in such a way as in the future they would have only to govern their own people. He prevailed upon four of the principal Chiefs to sign a document, *prepared by himself*, professing to be a letter from the Chiefs of Tahiti to the King of France, asking for French protection. This letter was forwarded to Paris by the first opportunity. When Queen Pomare, on her return to Tahiti, heard what had transpired, she immediately wrote three letters, one to Louis Philippe,

one to Queen Victoria, and one to the President of the United States, disavowing all knowledge of the said document and begging that it might at once be rendered null and void. To these letters her Majesty received no reply. In the beginning of September, 1842, Admiral Du Petit Thouars arrived at Tahiti in the "Reine Blanche." Several days elapsed without any intimation of hostile intentions. The Admiral and French Consul were together most of the time. Having arranged their plans, the Consul requested the Regent to write to Utami and Tati, two of the principal Chiefs, to say that the Admiral wished to see them, and that it was only for a friendly visit. They went immediately to the house of the Consul at Papeetè, where the vessel was at anchor. Here they met two other Chiefs, who had been sent for. M. Moerenhout took them on board the "Reine Blanche," where the Admiral received them in the after cabin. They had not been long on board when they were told through M. Moerenhout, as interpreter, that he had come to demand redress for the ill-treatment of Frenchmen. Several charges were brought forward, all of which were accounted

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by the Chiefs to be untrue and not one of which could, under any circumstances, be construed into ill-treatment. The native Chiefs were anxious to have a public investigation into these charges; but the Admiral would not agree to anything of the kind. He maintained that the allegations were all true, and he demanded 10,000 dollars, or the cession of Tahiti; or if neither of these, an agreement, which he had prepared, must be made between Pomare on the one part, and Louis Philippe on the other, and if the agreement were not made, he would fire upon the land. The agreement, drawn up in French, and translated into Tahitian, was a document, professedly coming from the Queen and Chiefs requesting French protection. The natives solemnly declared that they knew nothing of such a document until it was presented to them for their signature. The Admiral could not prevail upon the Chiefs to sign it, but M. Moerenhout took them on shore to his house (the French Consulate) where he at length obtained their signatures, positively declaring that if they did not sign, the Admiral would commence hostilities on the morrow, but if they would con-

sent to sign the paper, he would give to each of them *one thousand dollars*. As yet they had not obtained the Queen's signature. Her Majesty was at Moorea, the next Island. A boat was immediately despatched, the distance of 28 miles, to convey the fatal document, with positive instructions, from the Admiral, to return with the Queen's signature by 2 o'clock the next day, or he would seize the Island and depose her Majesty. Words fail to describe the feelings which the presentation of this paper to Pomare produced in the minds of the Royal Family, especially when the messenger stated that he was commanded, by M. Moerenhout, to state that her Majesty must sign that, or pay 10,000 dollars, otherwise the Admiral would on the next day, at 2 o'clock, fire upon the town and take possession of Tahiti. It was late in the evening when the messenger arrived at Moorea, and he must leave very early in the morning in order to reach Tahiti in time to avert the threatened attack, thus leaving Pomare but a few hours in which to decide. It was not till the last moment (about 4 a.m.) that she could bring her mind to sign her name. That night was literally a night

of weeping. As soon as the Queen had signed her name to the document she took up into her arms her eldest son, and kissing him affectionately, said, "My dear child, I have signed away your birthright." The messenger returned to Tahiti, only just in time to prevent the firing, the vessel being ready for action. The Admiral would not receive the document on shore, but insisted upon two of the principal Chiefs taking it on board the vessel, and delivering it to him in his own cabin. His design in pursuing this course, probably was, that he might inform his government, and also publish to the world at large, that while at Tahiti two of the influential Chiefs brought on board his vessel, and delivered to him a document, signed by Queen Pomare and four of the head Chiefs, begging that Tahiti might be put under French protection.

This done, the Admiral did not wait for instructions from his government, but at once established a French Protectorate, consisting of three gentlemen. M. Moerenhout, the French Consul, he nominated "Commissioner of the King;" M. Reine, Military Governor; and M. de Campeгна,

Captain of the Port. Queen Pomare was immediately deprived of the exterior Sovereignty of Tahiti and Moorea, the revenue arising from foreign residents, and from ships visiting the Port—was claimed by the—so called—Provisional Government, which had been thus forced upon the rightful Sovereign and her people. This was the first important step towards the ulterior object which they had in view, viz., the full possession of Pomare's dominions. The Admiral wrote to the Queen, telling her Majesty how glad he was that all things were now amicably settled, and he hoped she would dine with him on board the "Reine Blanche" before he left. Her Majesty, however, as on a former occasion, respectfully, but firmly, declined, the settlement being, in her estimation, anything but amicable. The Admiral having left Tahiti, the French officials composing the Provisional Government were very annoying to Queen Pomare and to the natives generally, in consequence of which she was advised to remove with her family to Bunauia, a town about 12 miles from Papeete. While there, H.B.M. Frigate "Vindictive" arrived at Tahiti, com-

manded by Commodore Nicholas. This vessel had come direct from Sydney, where I was staying a few days, on my return from England. I cheerfully accepted the Commodore's kind offer to give me a passage on board the Frigate under his command. We made Tahiti on February, 24th, 1843, but as there was no prospect of getting to the proper Port that day, I went on shore in one of the ship's boats, and landed near the place where Sir Thomas Thompson, commanding H.B.M. ship "Talbot," had recommended the Queen and her family to reside till the arrival of another British ship-of-war; consequently I had the pleasure of seeing her Majesty in a few minutes after landing. The information I had to communicate relative to the large vessel in the offing, the character of her gallant officer (the Commodore), his anxiety to render all that assistance and protection which circumstances would allow, and the various presents for the royal family intrusted to my care by the British Government, as renewed assurances of those friendly relations which had so long existed, drew from them numerous expressions of gratitude and joy. On the following day

the "Vindictive" anchored in Papeete Harbour; I having again joined her out at sea. No sooner had we entered the Port, than a letter from Queen Pomare, addressed to the Commodore and to myself, in my official capacity as British Consul, was sent on board, giving us a hearty welcome to Tahiti, and in a most earnest and touching manner, entreating us to do all in our power to protect her from the French, and to restore her to her former position. Her Majesty at very considerable length described her numerous and heavy trials, arising from the arbitrary and oppressive conduct of the French. In reply to the Queen's letter we expressed our deep sympathy and promised we would do all we could for her benefit. As soon as the vessel had anchored, I accompanied the Commodore and most of his officers on shore to pay their respects to her Majesty, who had come with her family from the other station (Bunauia) to Papeete to receive them. The Queen, finding herself again surrounded by her friends, spoke freely of the painful circumstances which had transpired, the relation of which aroused the indignation and sympathy of all present. The next morning the

proper Tahitian flag was hoisted at the Queen's residence and saluted by the "Vindictive" with 21 guns. From day to day we endeavoured to console her Majesty in her troubles, and assured her of our willingness to render every assistance in our power; but as the particulars had been forwarded both to the English and French Governments, we advised her to wait patiently till despatches arrived from Europe on the subject. Soon after I had the honour of presenting to Pomare, from Queen Victoria, a carriage, and a handsome drawing-room suite, also from His Excellency, Sir George Gipps, Governor of New South Wales, in the name of her Britannic Majesty, articles of furniture and handsome dresses for the husband of Pomare and for her four children.

I was instructed by my Government to present the various articles in the name of her Majesty Queen Victoria, and to accompany them with such expressions as might be suitable to the occasion, showing to the authorities in the Islands that the British Government continued to take that interest in their prosperity which had heretofore been expressed. There was also a variety of

valuable articles from Lady Trowbridge and other persons of distinction in Great Britain, all of which were very gratefully received as tokens of sympathy and affectionate regard. As there was no distinctive mark in the Queen's flag by which the natives and others might know where her Majesty was *in person*, and as difficulties had already arisen from the want of some mark of distinction, Pomare ordered a crown to be put into the white part of her flag, which being done the following notice was sent to the officers of the Provisional Government:—"Her Majesty Queen Pomare, considering that in accordance with the usages of all Monarchical States, the particular and personal flag of the Sovereign should bear a mark of distinction to show the difference between it and the national flag of the country, whereby to know when the sovereign is present, the Queen hereby signifies to the Provisional Government that henceforward wherever her Majesty may be *in person*, either on shore or afloat, that her flag will bear a crown similar to that on the seal of her arms, which will signify that the Queen is then and there present. (Signed)

POMARE." As the French still maintained that both the Sovereign and her subjects were anxious for French protection Queen Pomare thought it advisable to call a meeting of the principal people on Tahiti and Moorea that she might ascertain their candid opinion and give them an opportunity of stating their wishes. When the French authorities heard that there was about to be a great gathering they were in a state of consternation, fearing that the object was to attack them. They therefore applied officially to Commodore Nicholas, begging him to interfere to prevent it. I enquired of the Chiefs and people as to the probability of such a result. They all assured me that no such thing was contemplated, that the people were coming from the various parts of the Islands and from Moorea to hold a public meeting, but they would not be allowed to come armed. They assembled in great numbers very peaceably, and her Majesty, addressing her Chiefs and people through her Speaker, said, "Do you accede to my wish? This is my desire, let me and all my family be with the old alliance, that Victoria may truly be my friend. Let us twist a threefold

cord and get a brass chain that it may not be destroyed by rust; let us make a vessel of Tahiti and let Britain be a rock, and let us take the threefold cord and the brass chain to that rock, even Britain, and fasten to it, so that we may not be moved, and that all nations may know that it is my desire still to be one with Britain. If it be agreeable to you, my people, that we should still be with Britain, hold up your hands." The people immediately held up their hands, the Queen's Speaker saying with a loud voice, "Let us all be with Britain; let us all be with Britain." Biaba, one of the Chiefs, in addressing the Queen, said, "This is our desire, that the Commodore fully inform us of the nature of the protection to be given us."

Nautere, the Queen's Speaker, replied, "You enquire concerning this protection. There is our Protector (Victoria) the Queen of Britain, and here is her servant, the British Commodore. This is his word: 'I have had great happiness in coming to Tahiti to assist Queen Pomare. I will, if possible, wait for another ship of war to arrive before I leave. Whilst I am here I will protect

Queen Pomare from insult and oppression as long as my ship will swim.'” A Chief then said, “We are very much pleased with the words of the Commodore which you have made known to us. Now we know that here is our man-of-war to protect us, we feel a pleasure in returning to our lands.” Mare, one of the Judges, said, “Friends, this is a good word; behold we fully know the words of our Protector. This word is as water from the rock dropping upon the crown of our heads. We are refreshed. Let us rejoice at this good word with pleasure and admiration and with cheerfulness of heart; let us acquiesce in this good word with Amen.” Then all the people stood up and shouted “*Amen*” three times. The impression immediately produced was very great. Many foreigners were present, most of whom were highly gratified with the meeting.

By the kind assistance of Commodore Nicolas the Tahitian code of Laws was considerably enlarged and greatly improved. The French authorities protested against this procedure and would not allow any new laws to be enforced. They would permit no addition to those which

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were in existence when the French Protectorate was established. The 24th of May being the anniversary of Queen Victoria's birthday, Pomare and all the royal family were invited to dine on board H.B.M. ship "Vindictive." The French Consul, mortified by the refusal of the Queen to dine on board any of the French ships of war, waited upon her Majesty and endeavoured to prevail upon her not to go on board the "Vindictive." Pomare was determined to go, and being anxious to do justice to the occasion, spared no expense in making preparation. The day was fine, and the "Vindictive," at all times beautiful, was now very tastefully dressed with the colours of all nations, the Royal Standard of England flying at the maintop-gallant masthead. At the appointed hour boats were sent on shore to take the Royal family on board. Queen Pomare and her husband went in her Majesty's own carriage to the British Consul's pier, where the Commodore's barge was waiting their arrival. A Royal salute was fired, the yards were manned, the marines presented arms, and the band played Queen Pomare's March. Her Majesty appeared in crimson silk,

trimmed with white lace, and a beautiful head-dress of artificial flowers. Her husband wore a uniform similar to that of a Post-Captain of the English navy. The little Princes had plaid velvet tunics, trimmed with gold lace, crimson velvet caps with gold bands, and white satin jean trousers. It was the opinion of several of the gentlemen present that her Majesty's appearance would not have disgraced any Court in Europe. The first toast was "Her Britanic Majesty Queen Victoria." The next was "Queen Pomare," with an excellent speech by Commodore Toup Nicolas, to which Uata, the Queen's foster father, made an appropriate reply. Several other toasts were given, after which there was a display of fireworks. The yards being again manned, and blue lights burning, the Royal family returned to the shore, very much gratified by their visit. In the month of July the Commodore received from the British Admiral orders to leave Tahiti and proceed to Valparaiso. It was with the deepest concern and regret that the British residents heard that the "Vindictive" was about to leave. Queen Pomare was much distressed at the thought of the

Commodore's departure. Her Majesty's letter will show how anxious she was for him to remain till the unpleasant business was finished, how grateful she was for the assistance and protection he had afforded, and her earnest desire that on his arrival in England he would plead her cause with the British Government.

“Papeete, August 2nd, 1843.

“O Commodore, health and peace be to you. Great was my surprise when I heard that you were about to leave. This is the desire of my heart, that you still remain at Tahiti till the day when the work you have been doing shall be finished. I am pleased with the great works done by you in assisting me at Tahiti. Do you fully receive my thanks for the good assistance you have given me. Though your ship go away, yet you will not be forgotten by us, we shall think of you with affection and gratitude. Our thoughts will follow you even to Britain. When you arrive there and meet with the persons conducting the Government, then think of me in my distress, and assist me.

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Make me known in my affection to your wife and all your family. Health and peace to you.

The servant of my dear friend, Victoria.

POMARE, Queen of Tahiti, &c., &c., &c.”

The Commodore would willingly have complied with the wishes of the Queen to remain at Tahiti, but his orders were peremptory. On the 6th of August, 1843, he left the harbour for the Spanish Coast. Commodore Nicolas will long be remembered by the Tahitians for his indefatigable labours to promote their welfare. On the 30th of September, Captain Tucker arrived in H.B.M. Ship “Dublin,” sent by the British Admiral for the protection of the British residents. On the 1st of November the French Admiral, Du Petit Thouars, arrived in the “Reine Blanche;” immediately after the vessel had come to an anchor, Queen Pomare addressed a letter to the Admiral, expressing her hope that he had now come with orders from the two Governments (French and English) to restore her Sovereign power. This letter the Admiral did not condescend to notice, but in a few hours afterwards sent on shore a very long communication addressed to the Queen and

Chiefs, informing them that his Majesty Louis Philippe, first King of the French, had ratified the treaty, and therefore from that day it was irrevocable. The introduction of a crown into her personal flag by Queen Pomare, gave great offence to the French authorities. They maintained that the act of taking a personal flag was vicious in its origin, without any right and an offence to France.

The Admiral ordered the National Flag of France—(not that of the Protectorate) to be hoisted on the Tahitian flagstaff and to be saluted. Queen Pomare protested against this procedure, but it was altogether useless, as the Admiral persisted in the course he had adopted. The Queen became now more than ever convinced that the proposal to establish the Protectorate was only a pretext, and that they were determined to get possession of Tahiti for a French colony. The sequel has proved that her Majesty's anticipations were correct. At 8 o'clock the next morning the French flag was saluted with 21 guns. The French ships-of-war in the harbour were gaily dressed with their colours. Soon after midday

two other very large frigates arrived, bringing Admiral Bruat, the intended Governor, and a large number of troops. These were soon decorated with their various colours, and the French flag was then honoured with another salute, and again at sunset. The two last-named vessels brought materials with which to build barracks and a fort, and great guns to mount thereupon. Had they intended only to establish a Protectorate these things would not have been necessary, neither would a Governor have been needful.

In the forenoon of that day a letter was taken to the Queen by the Captain of the Port, who took great pains to inform her Majesty that if she did not comply with the Admiral's wishes, she would lose her Government altogether, and that her children would not be allowed to govern any of the other Islands. The purport of the Admiral's letter was to inform the Queen that he could not recognize a flag which had been adopted after the signature of the Treaty with the King of the French, but if she would take out the crown, and, as a substitute, put in some stars, he would then pay her the honours of royalty. In preparing

this crown great care had been taken to make it *unlike* all other crowns, not only in England but in Europe. Small cocoa-nut leaves were introduced in the upper part of it, that it might be emblematic of the country to which it belonged. Her Majesty was informed, verbally, that she would be allowed till 12 o'clock the next day to consider the Admiral's proposition, when if the present flag continued to fly, troops would be sent on shore to haul down the flag and take possession of the Island. Her Majesty addressed a petition to the King of the French. The following is a translation of an extract from it.

“ Papeete, Tahiti. Nov. 4th, 1843.

“ The Petition of Queen Pomare, the Sovereign of Tahiti, &c., to Louis Philippe, the King of the French.

“ Your well-known benevolence will not allow you to object to the Petition of a powerless Sovereign, and her weakness will induce you to compassionate her. This is my Petition, that the treaty of the 9th of September, 1842, may be *thoroughly undone*, because it was through *fear* that I wrote my name in the said treaty. This

is the reason why that treaty should be thoroughly undone, because the paper of charges out of which grew the treaty was not written to me. Certain vague reports were circulated. The money which your Admiral demanded I could not obtain. If I had had the money it would have been given, as on a former occasion. This is another reason why I make this known to you, O King; M. Moerenhout, whom you put in office, coaxed and intimidated certain Chiefs who were not well affected towards me, that they might write their names in the said treaty. On account of my indisposition, and being near my confinement, great was my trouble. On account of this plain statement to you, O King of the French, I trust to your benevolence, that you may thoroughly undo the said treaty, that you may leave me independent on Tahiti.

“(Signed) POMARE, Queen of Tahiti, &c.”

About 10 o'clock on the 5th of November the Admiral wrote to Queen Pomare as follows:—

“Madame,—I declare to you, if at the expiration of two hours after this letter this flag is not

struck, and if, before sunset, you have not written me a letter of apology for your inconceivable conduct, and made a formal declaration that you will renew, in good faith, your treaty with France, I will no longer recognize you as Queen and Sovereign of the lands and dependencies of the Society Islands, and I shall take definitive possession, in the name of the King of France.

“(Signed) A. DU PETIT THOUARS.”

Shortly after this another letter was sent, informing her Majesty that the Admiral would not take possession till 12 o'clock the next day. The Queen was in deep distress, and spent that evening at the British Consulate. The next morning the natives generally, especially those in the town, were greatly excited, anxious to see if these threats would be carried into execution. With a view of preventing the people from creating anything like a disturbance, her Majesty issued the following proclamation:—

“Ye Governors, Chiefs, and all men in my dominions. This is my word to you,—keep perfectly quiet. Should you even be ill-treated still

keep quiet and bear it patiently. Rely upon the justice and the clemency of the King of the French and the other Sovereigns of Europe.

“POMARE, Queen of Tahiti, &c.

“Nov. 6th, 1843.”

At 12 o'clock the French began to land the troops. About 500 having come on shore, they were marched, with the band playing at their head, up to the Queen's house, where they found a few of the Chiefs in charge of the house and flag-staff. The troops were exercised for a few minutes, after which a French officer harangued his fellow countrymen, stating that in the name of his Majesty Louis Philippe, King of the French, they now took possession of Queen Pomare's dominions. The flag was then hauled down and the French colours hoisted in its place. They then gave three cheers and swore to defend it with their lives. A Royal salute was then fired with the field pieces which they had taken on shore, and by all the French ships in the harbour. The officers then demanded the keys of Pomare's house, and immediately took possession, not only of that house but of several others belonging to the Royal family.

Thus was Queen Pomare at once deprived of all she possessed, not an inch of land remaining nor a house in which to shelter herself and family. Her Majesty took up her abode with us at the British Consulate. As soon as her personal flag was hauled down many of her people came to compassionate her. It was truly affecting to see their deep sympathy with their Queen in her heavy trials, especially to see some with hoary hairs, who would have shed their blood for her without a tear, weeping bitterly. Several of the British residents also came to express their deep concern for her Majesty, and assured her that although the French had cruelly deprived her of house and home she should not want so long as it was in their power to render any assistance which she might require. Pomare herself bore up under it all far better than could possibly have been expected. Finding it perfectly useless to hold any further correspondence with the Admiral, her Majesty addressed another petition to King Philippe. The following is a literal translation.—

“Petition of Pomare to Louise Philippe (King of the French).

“ Tahiti, Nov. 7th, 1843.

“ O King,—This day have I been deprived of my Government. My Sovereign power has been violated, and my lands have been seized by your Admiral with an armed force because I have been accused of not regarding the Treaty which was written on the 9th of September, 1842. In regard to that Treaty was the letter which I wrote to you on the 4th November, 1843. It never was my intention to put a crown into my flag for the purpose of breaking the Treaty and insulting you, O King. I think that the circumstance of keeping a crown in my personal flag will not be considered by you as a crime on my part, because it was but a very little thing which your Admiral demanded should be altered. If I had complied my Sovereign power would have been despised by my high Chiefs. Besides, I do not know any part of that Treaty which makes known the character of my personal flag. I strenuously protest against the harsh conduct of your Admiral, but I trust to you with confidence in your compassion, your justice and your kindness towards me, a powerless Sovereign, that you will deliver me from my

troubles. This is my prayer, that the Almighty may soften your heart, that you may perceive the justice of what I ask of you, that you may restore to me the Sovereign power and the Government of my forefathers. That God may bless you, O King, and that your reign may be long and flourishing is the prayer of

“POMARE.”

To this petition the Queen received no reply.

Governor Bruat having landed in great style, took up his residence in the large house which had belonged to Pomare, giving it the name of the “Government Palace.” On the following *Sabbath* forenoon His Excellency held a levee, to receive the foreign residents, and in the afternoon of that sacred day, the band was ordered on shore for the benefit of those who chose to amuse themselves by dancing. While Pomare and her family were living with us, it was reported that the French authorities were coming to the British Consulate to insist upon Pomare going to see the Governor, and perceiving some of the Gens d’armes coming round the bay towards the house, she took refuge for a few hours on board H.B.M. ship “Dublin.”

On the 8th January, 1844, H.B.M. Ketch "Basilisk" arrived with orders for the "Dublin" to leave. That Pomare might not be altogether without protection, Captain Tucker ordered the "Basilisk" to remain at Tahiti till another British ship-of-war arrived. The French authorities having seized and imprisoned some of the principal Chiefs, simply because they were friendly to Pomare, I felt convinced that it was not safe for the royal family to remain longer in my house, I therefore obtained permission from Captain Hunt to take them on board the "Basilisk" for protection. About half-an-hour after they had gone on board, nine or ten French soldiers, *armed*, came and stood for a short time opposite my door, and then returned, evidently disappointed. As soon as Governor Bruat became aware that the Queen and her family had taken refuge on board the "Basilisk," M. D. Carpegna was sent with the following letter:—

" Papeete, January, 1844.

" French Establishments of the Ocean.

" The Governor of the French Possessions of
Oceania to Pomare.

“ In the name of the King of the French.

“ We, Governor of the French Possessions of Oceania, give you notice that by this act of defiance to our protection that you have just committed, you have renounced, by this same act, our support. That it is prohibited to you to land on the Society Islands without having previously obtained our permission.

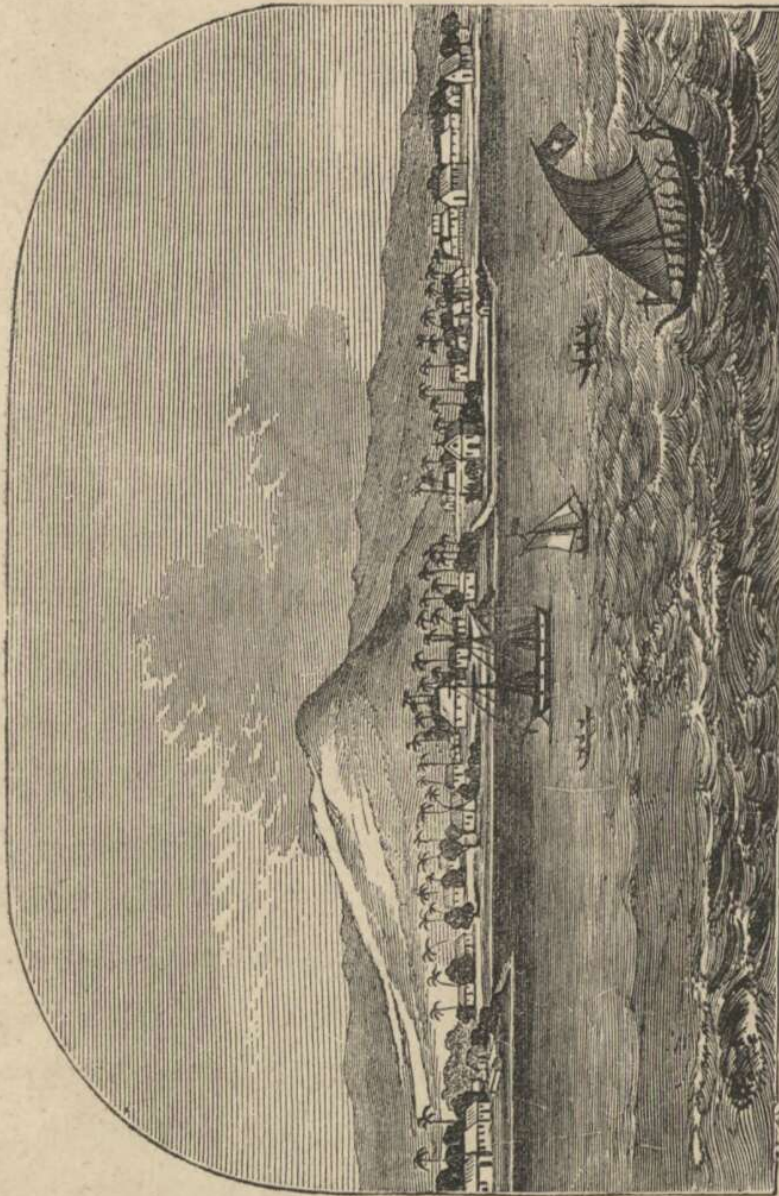
(“ Signed BRUAT.”)

The “ Basilisk ” being at anchor just opposite the British Consulate, two sentinels were placed day and night, close to my own gate, to watch all our movements, and to seize the Queen or her children should they attempt to land.

A child belonging to the royal family having died, Queen Pomare was anxious to attend the funeral. This could only be managed by conveying the corpse by water instead of by land, consequently the coffin and bearers, and some others, were taken in the cutter belonging to the “ Basilisk,” and the Commander took the Queen and Mrs. Pritchard in his own boat. When we arrived near the place where the corpse was to be

deposited, the French police were waiting on the beach, ready to seize any of the royal family if they should set foot on the shore. The death of the child, and the peculiar position in which she was placed, produced the deepest distress and agony in the mind of the persecuted Queen, who wept most bitterly.

On the 19th of February, Pomare and all her friends (native and foreign) were greatly delighted by the opportune arrival of Captain Gordon, in H.B.M. Steam-vessel "Cormorant," by whose very great kindness the anguish of Pomare's mind was very much alleviated. From the time Queen Pomare was deposed until she had to take refuge on board the British vessel, I had accommodated her and her family, but not having sufficient room for all her domestics, a house a few yards distant had been fitted up for their convenience by the men under the command of Captain Tucker, of H.B.M.S. "Dublin." On Sabbath, 25th of February, the head policeman, with a number of soldiers, went into this house and violently drove out its occupants, because they were the servants of the Queen, and the house was immediately turned into a French prison.



APIA HARBOUR.

The Isthmus is by far the most lovely spot on the whole of Tahiti. It belonged to the royal family. The largest house on the Island was there, and was built by the Chiefs and people for Pomare, their rightful Sovereign, and there she occasionally resided.

The French took possession of that also, and turned it into a barracks. They then tried to capture several of the Chiefs, but without success. Perceiving that the natives generally were thereby greatly exasperated, the Governor was under the impression that they were meditating an attack upon the French. The natives had no such intention, on the contrary, many of them had retired to their fortresses on the mountains in order to avoid coming in contact with the French, but on the bare suspicion, Papeete was immediately put under Martial Law, and the town declared to be in a state of siege.

A number of regulations were issued forthwith and most rigidly enforced. I was particularly careful to act in accordance with these new regulations, but my determination to avoid giving offence was useless; what I had already done,

viz., afforded protection to the Queen and her family, was sufficient in the estimation of the authorities to render me the marked man for their first victim. The new regulations were issued on the 2nd of March, and were to come into force on the following day: accordingly, in the afternoon (3rd) I, although H.B.M.'s recognized Consul, was seized by the police, and, without any reason being assigned, was taken to a block-house, consisting of a dungeon and a guard-room over it, entered by a ladder from the outside. I was ordered to mount that ladder, and then was put down through a trap-door into the dungeon, which had an earthen floor and no windows. Light and air were admitted by loopholes, made for the purpose of firing muskets. Here I was furnished with a mattrass, a bolster, and a blanket.

I begged the head policeman to allow me to send a note to Mrs. Pritchard, to let her know where I was, but this was denied me. I was told that I must remain there, and the trap door was then shut, and I was left to my own musings trying to imagine what I could have done that I should

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be treated like a felon. After being confined 15 or 16 hours, I was furnished with the following document:—

“ French Establishment in Oceania.

“ A French sentinel was attacked on the night of 2nd March. In reprisal I have caused to be seized ‘one Pritchard,’ the only daily mover and instigator of the disturbance of the natives. His property shall be answerable for all damages occasioned to our Establishments by the insurgents, and if French blood is spilt, every drop shall fall back on his head.

“ Papeete, 3rd March, 1844.

“ The Commandant Particular
of the Society Islands.

(Signed) D’AUBIGNY.”

I knew no more about a French sentinel being attacked than if I had been on the opposite side of the globe. I was firmly persuaded no French blood would be spilt, if they would let the natives alone. I was also conscious of having from the first exhorted the people to bear patiently all their trials and by no means to ill-treat any of the French.

I enjoyed much consolation from the knowledge that my life was in the hands of God, and that if it was his will that I should suffer it would be for some wise purpose, and he would give me all that support which my peculiar circumstances would require. On the third day I became very ill, suffering from a severe attack of dysentery. Owing to the dampness of the dungeon and the intense excitement and anxiety of mind, it was very soon necessary to remove me. I was then placed on board one of their large ships in the harbour, where I was still kept in solitary confinement. I was allowed food twice a day, at eight in the morning and at four in the afternoon. After being ten days thus imprisoned I was put on board an English ship out at sea, and forcibly sent away from the Islands without a trial or investigation of any kind. Seven months elapsed without seeing or hearing of my wife and family. They were obliged to remain on Tahiti about three months waiting for a vessel, during which time they were greatly annoyed by the French sailors and soldiers, who helped themselves to such of our live-stock and property as

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they desired. On my arrival in England our government demanded from the French government an explanation. M. Guizot replied that the French authorities at Tahiti perceived that I had so much influence with Queen Pomare, with the Chiefs and people generally, that so long as I remained they could make no progress. They approved of my removal, but condemned the means by which it was effected. Thus, we see, my enemies, being Judges, that my unpardonable offence was *my great influence*. I am quite ready to admit the fact, but can truly say that I ever endeavoured to use my influence for the universal good, French as well as natives, and to promote peace. Up to the time of my expulsion not a blow had been struck, but no sooner was I away than they were at war, and many were killed on both sides. The Rev. Mr. McKean was shot as he was walking quietly along the verandah of the Mission House. Shortly after my expulsion the Governor laid such restrictions upon the labours of the other Missionaries that they refused to remain under those humiliating conditions, consequently they put the Protestant

churches under the care of native pastors and returned to England. Prior to their departure, Pomare addressed to them a very kind and affectionate letter, of which the following is a correct translation.

“Vaiaau, August 30th, 1844.

“To the Revds. Messrs. How, Jesson, Joseph and Moore.

“Peace be to you.

“This is my speech to you all: may you be saved by the Lord in your journeyings; great is my affection for you. I have no desire to give you up, but in consequence of fear on your account I do so, because the land is evil, and I am in trouble. I agree to let you go, but if I had remained quiet you would on no account have been given up by me. But this is my speech to you: do you remember me in my great affliction. Behold, you are going to Great Britain, make fully known my affliction to the Queen, and to those who govern the kingdom under her, and to the Ministers and the Directors of the great society that they may seek the way in which

I and my country may again enjoy good. This is what I wish you to make known to them: Let there be no French flag set up in my kingdom, neither a Protectorate flag. Neither let there be a French Governor, nor any one connected with him in my dominions. I have not the least desire for these flags. The true flag of my country is what I desire. Give the Queen of Great Britain no rest until these flags are entirely removed that I may enjoy good, and that I may again be free in my own country.

“ May Peace be with you,

“ POMARE, Queen of Tahiti.”

As an instance of the mode of treatment adopted by the French authorities towards the natives, I may state the following, of which I was informed by several eye-witnesses.

Some relatives of Pomare returning from Moorea, (the neighbouring Island) were swamped by a very heavy sea, just as they were entering Papeete Harbour. Certain persons on the shore, seeing what had happened, sent Pomare's own boat as quickly as possible to their assistance. As

life was at stake they pulled immediately to the spot to rescue them, if possible, from a watery grave. No sooner did the French perceive that the boat had gone without first obtaining their permission, than they sent out their boats and captured the whole party. The principal person in the boat which was swamped, was a cousin of Queen Pomare. She had with her her youngest child, a babe, three or four months old. The general opinion was that the child was not dead when taken out of the water, and that if they had been allowed to go direct to the shore and use proper restoratives, they might have been successful in saving its life; instead of this, all were taken on board the French frigate "Uranie" as prisoners, and kept there about two hours. Dr. Meyrick, a British resident, was imprisoned four days for having advanced the above opinion on the death of the child. The boat which had been swamped was, after some time, given up, but Pomare's boat was retained by the French authorities.

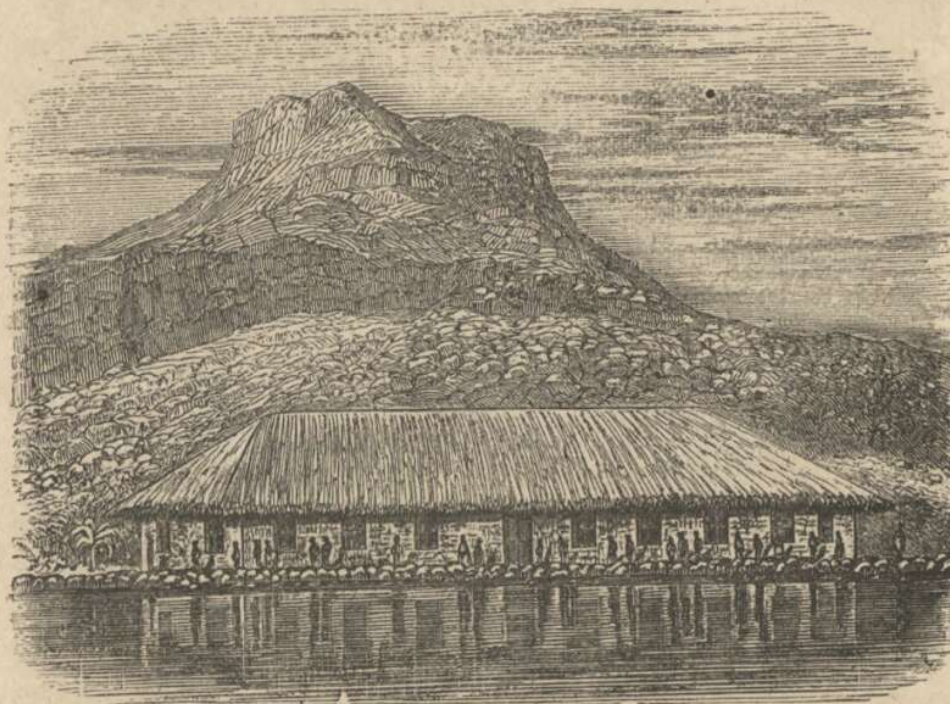
Such was the conduct of the French towards the small vessel (the "Basilisk",) on board of which

the Queen and her family had taken refuge, that they considered they were no longer safe, although under the British flag; consequently they applied to Captain Gordon for permission to go on board H.B.M. steam vessel under his command for greater security. The royal family had scarcely got on board the "Cormorant" than the Governor made arrangements for that *British Ship-of-War to leave the Port*; consequently they all had to return on board the "Basilisk."

From the deck of that little vessel she could see the lofty mountains, the verdant valleys, and the luxuriant vegetation of her fatherland; but was not allowed (nor any of her family) to set foot on shore. She could recognize many of her subjects passing to and fro along the beach, but could hold no converse with them, the restrictions likewise preventing them from going on board to see her.

The health of the royal family beginning to fail, through long confinement and anxiety, and their lives being constantly embittered by petty annoyances, the Queen became very desirous to go to some other Island, where she might live quietly and enjoy personal liberty; consequently the next

British ship-of-war that arrived at Tahiti took her and her family to the Island of Raiatea, where they received a hearty welcome from the King, Chiefs, and people; but even there the French ships went to annoy them.

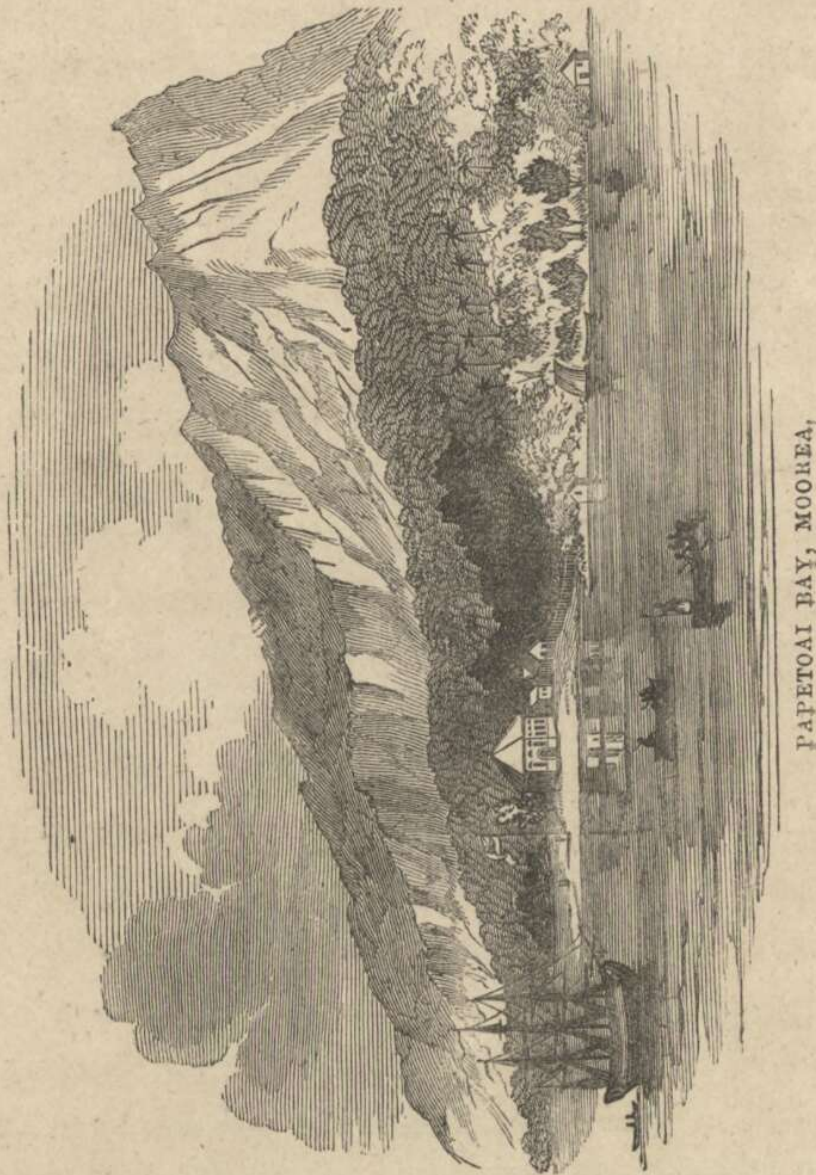


NATIVE CHAPEL, RAIATEA.

Notwithstanding all this persecution, Pomare's faith in God remained unshaken. A Missionary who went to see her in her banishment, was speaking of the protection of the French, when she replied, "I want no other protection

than that of God and his truth." Many of the Tahitians left their native soil and went to other Islands rather than remain under French rule, and a very large proportion of those who remained took up arms and went to their native fortress. There they held out against the French for nearly three years. At length they were betrayed, through the treachery of a native, from another Island, who knew the way into the fort, and who, for a sum of money, led the French soldiers to the camp. The Tahitians seeing that it would be useless to resist, laid down their arms and submitted to the conquerors. The Queen, hearing of the triumph of the French, began to question whether she should remain at Raiatea or return to Tahiti. After much serious thought and earnest prayer for divine direction, she resolved to return and submit to her enemies.

In February, 1847, the Queen, with her family, left Raiatea to return to Tahiti, and on their way they called at Moorea and visited the Missionaries. She told them that when her baby, Victoria, was a little older, she should place it under their care, but soon after the dear little girl died.



PAPETOAI BAY, MOOREA,

When they arrived at Tahiti, Pomare presented herself before the French Admiral Bruat. Having shaken hands with the Queen and her attendants the Governor said to the Queen, "I have several important things I wish to tell your Majesty privately. Where can we go?" "To the Chapel," was the reply. The important communications were,—That the Queen should be restored to her kingdom on certain conditions, and that a sum of money should be given to her every year. Pomare consented, because she knew there was no alternative. She then went into the large school-house, which was filled with people. Tapoa, the King of Borabora, engaged in prayer, after which Governor Bruat stood up, and taking the Queen by the right hand, said, "Queen Pomare and I understand each other perfectly, and I hereby return to her all her rights as Queen of these two Islands, Tahiti and Moorea." Immediately the French band began to play, and 21 guns were fired in honour of Pomare's restoration. This was done with a view of pleasing the natives, and that it might be published to the world, that the French had restored the sovereignty of Tahiti to

Pomare, retaining only the Protectorate, that is, the external Government of the Islands; but they have as full possession of them now as they have of New Caledonia, their penal settlement. This act of restoration was a mere form, and to the day of her death, Pomare was only nominally Queen, no rights of sovereignty having been returned to her. The French Government from that time allowed her a pension, on which to live in retirement. The trials of Queen Pomare were not only numerous and heavy, but also of long continuance. When all the circumstances are considered, her patient forbearance and Christian fortitude appear truly marvellous, and furnish a manifestation of those graces, such as we should only expect to meet in the most matured Christian characters. She evinced no desire to render evil for evil, but at all times exhibited much of the temper and spirit of her Saviour, who when He was reviled, reviled not again, and when He suffered threatened not. Her exemplary piety was clearly evinced by the tone and spirit of her letters to the King of the French, for while they prove that she was by no means indifferent to the

infringement on her rights which she had suffered, yet they always breathed kind wishes for his welfare, and for the prosperity of his kingdom. After Pomare was deprived of her sovereignty she laboured zealously for the spiritual benefit of the people.



A NATIVE MINISTER'S HOUSE.

The English Missionaries being obliged to leave, the Protestant Churches were put under the sole

care of native pastors,—men who had been trained for the work. These have carried on the work of the schools for the adults as well as for the juveniles, the prayer meetings and the Sabbath services, just as the English Missionaries had been accustomed to do. Queen Pomare always maintained a uniform kindness of behaviour towards these native pastors, and did everything she could to encourage them in their work.

A few years ago she invited them to accompany her to certain villages to hold special services of a religious character. She wished them to conduct the devotional parts of the services, and she would address the people. They went in company from village to village, and in a loving and truly Christian spirit she exhorted the people to be more diligent in their attention to Divine things, to cling to their Protestant faith, to walk worthy of their Christian profession, and try to do good to those around them. When she had visited all the villages she intended, she held a meeting with the pastors alone, entreating them to be zealous and faithful, and expressing her earnest desire that their labours might be attended with great success.

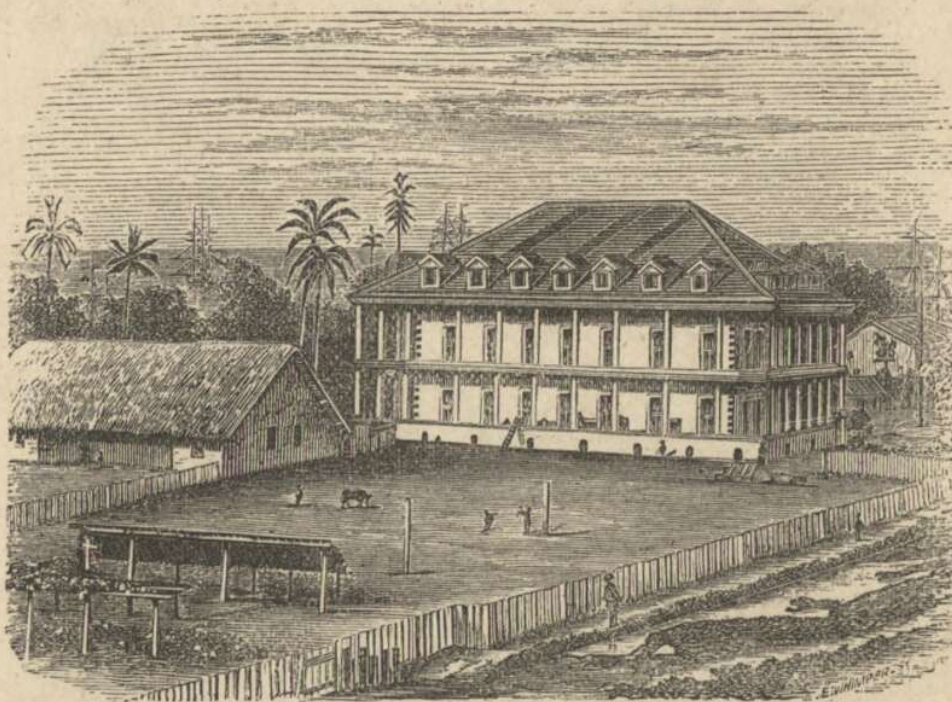
She called them her children, and concluded her address by saying,—“ I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.” Some time after it was found that in some of the villages that had been visited a considerable revival had been the result. Strangers visiting Tahiti have looked with more than ordinary interest upon the chapels and school-houses on the various districts, expressing their pleasure at finding them in such good condition. The Protestant natives on Tahiti during the years 1875-6 spent 35,000 dollars on their churches. Many of their places of worship would do credit to villages in our own country. The native pastors are men of God rightly dividing the word of truth. Their discourses, too, are not devoid of figurative language. The following may serve as a specimen;—A native, speaking to his countrymen on the love of Christ, said, with considerable warmth, “The love of Christ! to what shall I compare it? To what CAN I compare it? Compared with it, that ocean is shallow, that sky is low; the east and the west are close together.” The old, old story of Jesus and His love is the favourite subject on

which they delight to dwell. They preach the gospel of Christ in its purity, with simplicity and fidelity. It has been with the most intense interest I have heard some of the native Ministers address a large congregation on the Sabbath. I have sometimes been at a loss which to admire the more, the earnestness and simplicity of the preacher, or the serious and devout attention of his hearers. The Master whom they serve has not permitted them to labour in vain. They have been instrumental in the conversion of sinners, and in building up believers in the faith and hope of the Gospel. For more than thirty years the French Roman Catholic Bishop, with many Priests and Sisters of Charity, backed by their Government, have been zealously endeavouring to make Proselytes, but with very little success, though, if report is to be believed, they have not been at all scrupulous about the means used to increase the number of their adherents. On one occasion a Priest coaxed a number of little children into his house by giving them sweetmeats; then, taking them into an inner room, he sprinkled some holy water upon them. It was

then reported that several juveniles had joined their community. Some time ago a few of the women of Tahiti were induced to join the Romish communion by the promise of a new satin mantle each. These hopeful converts were admitted to "the bosom of the true Church," and duly received the promised reward. Great was their dismay when they afterwards found that they were held responsible for payment, and pay they did, though it was with great reluctance. Latterly, Popish Chapels have sprung up in districts where they never had been seen before. The Priests induce two or three persons to petition the Governor to build a Church in a certain locality. The petition is graciously acceded to, and the building is forthwith reared at the expense, not of the French Government, but of the *Protestant population*, who are heavily taxed for the support of Popery. A heavy tax is demanded of all who set up schools for the foreigners, which is intended to force the children of Europeans into the schools of the Jesuits. Notwithstanding these continued efforts to crush the Protestant cause, it has greatly prospered. By the

latest reports from the Islands, we learn that out of 8,000 inhabitants on Tahiti and Moorea there are only about 300 Roman Catholics. The number of members connected with the Protestant Churches is 2,485. These are under the Pastoral care of thirteen native preachers. The Bible is greatly loved and very highly prized by the natives generally, and of many of them it may truly be said that they "search the Scriptures daily." Some gentlemen visiting Tahiti went into the Roman Catholic Cathedral and expressed their surprise at seeing in the pulpit a Tahitian Bible (translated by the Protestant Missionaries.) A native in reply said, "They must have the *Bible*, or the Tahitians would never listen to them. Prior to the time of the French aggressions on Tahiti, the native churches did a great work in propagating the Gospel in the dark lands as they called those Islands where the joyful sound had not been heard, and the inhabitants were enveloped in heathen darkness. Many of the best members of the Church, men eminent for piety, talent, and intelligence, went forth as pioneers with the glad tidings of salvation; but when troubles so multi-

plied at home, their efforts and energies seemed crippled, and for several years they put forth no new attempts in that direction; it is however cheering to know that now they are awaking to a renewed sense of their duty to send the Gospel to those Islands which are destitute of it. They



QUEEN POMARE'S PALACE, TAHITI.

are just now sending, as a messenger of the Tahitian Churches, a devoted young man to Papua, which is a part of New Guinea. At Papeete they have collected a large quantity of articles, useful for the native Missionaries at

Papua. Pomare took the deepest interest in this work, and gave very liberally to help it on, thereby evincing her undiminished zeal and love for the cause of Christ.

In the early part of the month of September, 1877, the Queen became somewhat indisposed, but no serious results were anticipated. The following is an extract from the "Messenger de Tahiti," a newspaper published on the spot:—
 "Her Majesty Queen Pomare IV. expired on the 17th of September, 1877, at 7 a.m., at her house in Papeete, in the 65th year of her age, after having reigned a little more than 50 years over the Society Islands and dependencies.*

Born on the 23rd of February, 1813, her

* Queen Pomare never reigned over the Society Islands, viz.,—Huahine, Maiaoiti, Raiatea, Tahaa, Borabora, and Maupiti. Her Majesty had the sovereignty only of Tahiti and Moorea (the Georgian Islands). When Captain Cook visited those Islands, in the reign of George III., he had on board a gentleman (a naturalist), member of the Royal Geographical Society. Tahiti and Moorea he called the *Georgian Islands*—after King George; and out of compliment to the aforesaid Society he named the rest of that group the *Society Islands*, each of which has a separate Government.

Majesty Queen Pomare, succeeded her brother, Pomare III., in January, 1827. During so long a reign the Queen has experienced many vicissitudes and many trials; but notwithstanding all, she was still very vigorous, and there was nothing to indicate that her end was so near. This event will resound throughout the world. Oceania was, in a sense, represented by Queen Pomare. The multitude of Officers of all ranks, the numerous Captains of Commerce, who, during so many years, have visited these parts, have taken to all quarters of the Globe a souvenir of her person, of her hearty welcome, and of her hospitality. She has friends, therefore, everywhere—friends to deplore her death, and to partake of the regret of her family.”

The following brief report of the ceremonies connected with the funeral of the late Queen Pomare IV., which took place on Saturday the 22nd of September, has been forwarded to the London Missionary Society, by the Rev. J. L. Green, Chaplain to the foreign residents on Tahiti. “A public service was held at the Palace on Friday evening at five o’clock, conducted by M.

Vernier and myself, each of us in turn addressing the thousands of natives from the districts of Tahiti, Moorea (Eimeo), and other Islands, assembled in the grounds surrounding the Palace. The family, the French Admiral, all the French Officials from on shore, and from the ships-of-war in port, together with many other Europeans, occupied the halls and balconies of the Palace. M. Vernier and I took up our positions at the angle of the balconies, where we commanded the whole of that vast assembly. My colleague addressed the people from the words of St. Peter, 1st epistle, 1st chap. 24th verse. "For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass." I followed him, after the singing of a hymn, by an address from cxvi. Psalm, 15th verse. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Among the hymns sung at this service, was a translation of the English, "I have a Father in the promised land." The whole service was very impressive. The setting sun, with the peculiar stillness of all nature around us, and all that immense assembly dressed in deep mourning, tended to add to the solemnity of the occasion. On

the following morning (Saturday), the cortege moved off from the front of the Palace towards Papaoa, a distance of four miles, precisely in the following order :—

Mounted native Police with Banners.

French Gens d'Armes.

A company of Artillery.

Marines from the Admiral's frigate.

Band of Music from the frigate.

Local Band.

European Ministers.

Native Pastors.

The Hearse bearing the Corpse, drawn by
30 Natives, relieved at three intervals,
the Hearse being arranged from
the Queen's own carriage,
with a canopy over it.

Ariiaue, heir to the Throne, and Admiral.

Aides de Camp, and Director of
native affairs.

Late Queen's Privy Council.

Members of the Family.

Foreign Consuls.

French Naval, Military, and Civil Officers.

Pall bearers, Queen's youngest son and his cousin.

Pall Bearers, two Chiefs, Body Guard of Marines.

Native Judges of Supreme Court.

Native Chiefs.

Natives of Tahiti, Moorea,

And other Islands.

The procession extended over a mile, with an average of eight abreast, a single file of natives was stationed on either side of the road for the first mile and-a-half of the distance from Papeete, and as the cortege advanced these fell into the ranks. On arriving at the Royal Mausoleum at Papaoa, the natives surrounded the building. The Soldiers, Gens d'Armes, and Marines were drawn up rank and file, and as M. Vernier ascended the pulpit, which had been brought from the Church, and placed in a suitable position, the Marines fired a volley of musketry. After the hymn announced by M. Vernier, M. Vienot read a part of 15th chapter of 1st Epistle to the Corinthians. Mr. Brun, of Moorea, then offered prayer and addressed the assembly; and after the singing of another hymn, the coffin was removed from the hearse and deposited in the vault.

M. Vernier accompanied the act with a few

appropriate words, after which I offered prayer and pronounced the benediction. The people all dispersed, leaving only the family behind to weep over their loss. The following day being the Sabbath, funeral sermons were preached to very large and attentive congregations. Much could be written on the character, and the peculiar trials and difficulties of the late Queen, and of all the vicissitudes through which she has passed, but we only remark, in viewing them, that her uniform conduct has been such as to prove that she esteemed the reproach of Christ greater riches than all the pomp and position of royalty. She has for many years past felt herself much more at home in religious meetings than in the discharge of political duties, in fact, she has frequently absented herself from Papeete for weeks together, with her domestic chaplain, (one of my former students at Taaha), visiting several districts of the Island, or at Moorea, employing herself with the female members of the Churches, in holding meetings for mutual edification; and at these meetings she usually decided the character of the meeting, by previously prepared notes, and it was the notes

prepared for these meetings which had accumulated so as to excite the Admiral's astonishment to which I shall presently refer, and there is no doubt but these meetings have done much to keep the people in such firm adherence to the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; at the same time we know that God is not dependent on any one particular means whereby to accomplish His purposes, and we do not despair of His maintaining His cause amongst us. The day after the Queen's death, I called with my colleague, M. Vernier, to pay my respects to the Admiral as "Commandant Commissaire de la Republique (he having assumed that position two days previously, in consequence of the illness and incapacity of the commandant newly arrived in the Colony.)

The Admiral naturally referred to the Queen's sudden and unexpected death, and when speaking of the loss we all sustained in her departure from our midst, he said, "It has been a part of my duty to look over the Queen's private papers to ascertain, if possible, what her wishes were with regard to the succession, and I have been astonished to see the many proofs of her goodness. The many,

very many, notes on Scripture, which she has left behind her, shew her to have been eminently pious, and she was as generous and benevolent as she was pious. She has left behind her proofs of her generosity, benevolence, and self-denial, which shew that she had given away all her income, on some occasions, leaving only a few francs per month to support herself and her household." This remark speaks for itself and tells its own tale. Personally we felt an intense interest in Queen Pomare and her well-being; she looked upon us as a part of her own family, and would frequently drop in without ceremony, and the first intimation of her arrival would be her familiar voice calling out to Mrs. Green or myself, and telling us not to be disturbed. She is gone, however, and I have no doubt she has gone to be at rest, and to enjoy the eternal reward of her earnest though imperfect labours among her people."

(Signed) James L. GREEN.

Chaplain to the Foreign Residents."

The unqualified testimony given by the French Admiral to the sterling Christian character, the

uniformly consistent conduct and boundless benevolence of Queen Pomare speaks volumes in her praise. The natives generally have sustained a great loss in her death, for although for more than 30 years her sovereignty has been merely nominal, yet by the consistency of her Christian deportment, and her untiring zeal for the spiritual welfare of the people generally, she has proved a great blessing to the Islands, and will long be remembered, with much affection, both by natives and foreigners. Strangers unacquainted with what the French have done and are doing at Tahiti, on reading the account of the funeral, will be disposed to think that they have paid great honour to the memory of the Queen, but a further acquaintance with their proceedings, for more than 30 years, would lead such persons to a very different conclusion. Ariiaue, the Queen's eldest son, has been crowned under the title of Pomare V. Like his mother, he will have an annual allowance, and an honorary title.

