

there are very often vessels calling here, the people do not appear to have the least idea of raising anything to sell to them.

The natives of this island are quite a different race from the Samoans, they are smaller, their complexions darker, and their hair woolly; the men wear little or no clothing, the females wear a dress, made from the leaf of a particular kind of tree, which reaches from the waist to half way below the knee. The leaf of which they make these dresses, is generally 2 or 3 feet long, and quite stiff, they make it soft by chewing it for some time; it appears to me rather a troublesome way of making a dress, especially the chewing; they often wear four or five of these skirts around them, and in the mornings and evenings, throw one over their shoulders. Chiefs and their families wear tortoiseshell ear rings many of them eight and some twelve inches in circumference, and an inch and a half wide; they often wear four or five in one ear one inside the other. The common women wear flowers instead, and the men a large piece of wood, or two or three figs of tobacco. Men and women paint their faces different colors, generally black and red, and when any of their friends die, they besmear their whole bodies with black. I have been often amused to see them sit and rub their bodies with the soot from our pots, and appear to think it quite a treasure. The men, like the Tannese, have a singular way of dressing their hair, they wear it long and divided into many locks, each lock is twisted closely from the head till within an inch or two of the end, with the fibres or roots of some kind of plants; they then cover it with a kind of red paint; as the hair grows, they continue twisting it, and renewing the material with which it is twisted as it wears out. You may imagine the strange appearance they must make, decorated in this manner. The females wear their hair quite short, and from its appearance it gives them very little trouble. They wear great quantities of beads, whales' teeth, etc., around their necks; they do not value very small beads, the larger the more valuable to them if they have but two or three on one string, which is often the case, but they string shells to make up the deficiency. I have often been surprised that they could bear such a weight about their necks, and often a child on their back, for when not working at their plantation they carry their children constantly, tied on their back. Their children are very small but very lively, they nurse them until they are two or three years old.

We have service in the native language every Sabbath. Mr. Powell preached the fourth and Mr. G. the sixth Sabbath after our arrival. The Samoan teacher who has been here a number of years, was of great assistance, especially to Mr. Powell, who can speak the Samoan language fluently; but now Messrs. P.