

der had infringed one of the rules enjoined by the Captain for trading with the natives, he was flogged on board in their sight. When the first stroke had been given they were humane enough to interfere, and intreated earnestly that the culprit might be untied; but when this favour was denied them, they shewed strong signs of concern, and burst into tears.

On the 28th, Terapo, one of Tabourai Tamaide's female attendants, came down to the fort in the greatest affliction, the tears gushing from her eyes. Mr. Banks seeing her full of lamentation and sorrow, insisted upon knowing the cause, but instead of answering, she struck herself several times with a shark's tooth upon her head, till an effusion of blood followed, while her distress was disregarded by several other Indians, who continued laughing and talking with the utmost unconcern. After this, she gathered up some pieces of cloth, which she had thrown down to catch the blood, and threw them into the sea, as if she wished to prevent the least trace and mark of her absurd behaviour. She then bathed in the river, and with remarkable cheerfulness returned to the tent, as if nothing extraordinary had happened. During the forenoon of this day the Indian canoes were continually coming in, and people of both sexes filled the tents of the fort. Mr. Molineux, master of the Endeavour, seeing a woman whose name was Oberea, he declared she was the same person, whom he judged to be the queen of the island when he was there with Captain Wallis. The eyes of every one were now fixed on her, of whom so much had been said by the crew of the Dolphin, and in the account given of her by the captain. With regard to her person, she was tall and rather large made; she was about forty years of age, her skin white, and her eyes had great expression in them: she had been handsome, but her beauty was now upon the decline. It was not long before an offer was made to conduct her on board the ship, which she accepted. Many presents were made her, particularly a child's doll, which she viewed very attentively. Captain Cook accompanied her on shore, and when we landed, she presented him with a hog and some plantains, in return for his presents, which were carried to the fort in procession, Oberea and the Captain bringing up the rear. In the way they met Tootahah, who, though not king, seemed to be at this time invested with sovereign authority. Envy is found among those who are supposed to be the children of simple nature. Her influence was plainly visible in a matter which to us was rather a subject of laughter than of serious consideration. Tootahah no sooner saw the doll, than he discovered strong symptoms of jealousy, nor could any method be found of conciliating his friendship, but that of complimenting him with a baby also. A doll was now preferable to a hatchet; but a very short time taught the Indians the superior value of iron, which, on account of its usefulness, prevailed over every other consideration. To such of the men who came from time to time on board, the ship's provisions seemed to be very acceptable, but the women did not chuse to taste them; and though they were courted to dine with our gentlemen, yet, for reasons known only to themselves, they preferred the eating of plantains with the servants.

On the 29th, near noon, Mr. Banks paid a visit to Oberea, but was informed that she was asleep under the awning of her canoe; and, going to call her up, was surprized at finding her in bed with a young fellow of about twenty-five years of age, a discovery which caused him to retire rather disconcerted; but he soon understood that a commerce of this kind was by no means considered as scandalous, the ladies frequently courting the men to a voracious dalliance, of which they made no secret; and to young Obadee, found in bed with the queen, was well known by every one to be the object of her vicious hours. The queen soon got up, and dressed herself to wait upon Mr. Banks, and, after having as a token of her particular regard, put on him a piece of fine cloth, they proceeded together to the tent. In the evening Mr. Banks visited Tubourai Tamaide. He was astonished

to find this chief and his family in tears, and not being able to discover the cause, he soon took leave of them. Upon his return the officers told him, that Obahaw had foretold, that the guns would be fired within four days, and as this was the eve of the third day, they were alarmed at the situation they judged themselves to be in. As we were apprehensive of ill consequences from this prepossession, the centinels were doubled at the fort, and we thought it necessary to keep under arms; but Mr. Banks walking round the point, at two in the morning, and finding nothing that might tend to encourage his suspicions, he dropped them, and rested secure in the fort. This our little fortification was now complete. A bank of earth four feet and an half high on the inside, and a ditch without ten feet broad and six deep, formed the north and south sides. On the west, opposite the bay, was another bank (with palisades upon it) four feet high; but a ditch was unnecessary, the works being at high-water mark. Upon the river's bank, on the east side, was a range of water casks, filled with water. This being thought the weakest side, we planted two four pounders, and mounted six swivel guns, which commanded the only two avenues from the woods. We had about forty-five men in this fort, including the officers, and other gentlemen who resided on shore.

On the 30th Tomio came in great haste to our tents, and taking Mr. Banks by the arm, told him that Tubourai Tamaide was dying, owing to somewhat that had been given him by our people, and intreated him instantly to go to him. Accordingly Mr. Banks went, and found the Indian very sick. He had been vomiting, and had thrown up a leaf which they said contained some of the poison. Mr. Banks having examined the leaf, found it was nothing but tobacco, which the Indian had begged of some of the ship's company.

The matter, however, appeared in a very serious light to Tubourai Tamaide, who really concluded from the violent sickness he suffered, that he had swallowed some deadly drug, the terror of which no doubt contributed to make him yet more sick. While Mr. Banks was examining the leaf, he looked up to him, as if he had been just on the point of death. But when the nature of this dreadful poison was found out, he only ordered him to drink of cocoa-nut milk, which soon restored him to health, and he was as cheerful as before the accident happened. These people seemed in particular instances to be sometimes strangely afflicted from slight causes.

On the 1st of May, Captain Cook having produced an iron adze, which was made in imitation of the stone ones used by the natives, shewed it to Tootahah, as a curiosity. The latter snatched it up and insisted on having it; and though he was offered the choice of any of the articles in the chests which were opened before him, yet he would not accept of any thing in its stead. A chief dined with us that day, who had been on board some time before, accompanied by some of his women that used to feed him. He now came alone; and when all things were set ready for dinner, the captain helped him to some victuals, supposing that he would have dispensed with the ceremony of being fed; but he was deceived; for the chief never attempted to eat, and would have gone without his dinner, if one of the servants had not fed him. The next morning, May 2, we took the astronomical quadrant and some of the instruments on shore that afternoon; and to our great surprize when we wanted to make use of the quadrant, the next day, it was not to be found; a matter which was looked upon as the more extraordinary, as a sentinel had been placed for the whole night within a few yards of the place where it was deposited. Our own people, at first, were suspected of being concerned in this theft, and, as the instrument had never been taken out of the case, it was suspected that some person might have carried it off, under the supposition that its contents were articles used in traffic. A strict search was made in and about the fort, and a considerable reward offered in order to