

stances, it was not probable that such a plan of military operations would be settled, as could insure success. Omiah acted as interpreter, in conveying the captain's sentiments on this subject to Towha, and he supported his objections with such spirit, that the chief appeared to be extremely angry; especially, on being informed, that if he had taken away the life of a man in England, as he had done here, his rank would not have protected him from an ignominious death. Upon this he exclaimed, maeno! maeno! (vile! vile!) and would not hear a syllable more about it. Many of the natives were present at this debate; particularly the servants and attendants of Towha; and when Omiah mentioned the punishment that would be inflicted, in England, upon the greatest chief, if he dared to kill the meanest servant, they listened very attentively; and perhaps, on this subject, they thought differently from their master. Leaving Towha, we proceeded to Oparree, where Otoo solicited us to pass the night. We landed in the evening, and on our way to his habitation, had an opportunity of observing how these people amuse themselves in their private heevas. We saw about a hundred of them sitting in a house; in the midst of whom were two women, and an old man behind each of them, beating gently on a drum, and the women, at intervals, singing with great softness and delicacy. The assembly were very attentive, and seemed, as it were, absorbed in the pleasure the music gave them; few of them taking any notice of us, and the performers never once ceased. When we arrived at Otoo's house it was almost dark. Here we were entertained with one of their public heevas, or plays, in which his three sisters represented principal characters. This they call a heeva raa, and no person is suffered to enter the house, or area, where it is exhibited. This is always the case, when the royal sisters are performers. There is a sameness in their drama,
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