

The wearing of this native cloth, and consequently, the manufacture of it, are ordered to be discontinued in three years' time, after which period calico is to be worn. This mandate has been given in the hope of developing the cultivation of cotton, and by so doing enriching the islands; but probably it will be difficult to induce the natives to give up their old usages and customs.

Before leaving I had an opportunity of visiting the native church, which is prettily situated on the top of the highest hill. It is a neat-looking building, consisting of a nave and two aisles: the frame-work of the roof is cocoa-nut tree, supported on columns of hard wood, and thatched with palm leaves. About a dozen windows on each side light the building. Benches are provided to seat about eight hundred. There is a fine pulpit, and a good-sized organ, which was well played by one of the natives. The sermon was preached by a Tongan, and the singing was very good.

Public schools are giving most satisfactory results, and a large proportion of the rising generation can both read and write.

Near the church door is a monumental stone, which has recently been erected to the memory of Captain Croker, R.N., of H.M.S. *Favourite*, who was killed by the natives in an attack on Bea, in June 1840. Its history, as told in the school-books here, is that "the natives of Bea continuing their