

American Missionaries who had resided there
something more than two years. We remained with
those excellent persons about four months, during
which time we had an opportunity of taking
a leisurely view of the state of things in those
interesting Islands. More than two years before the
King and the people had turned from dumb Idols;
but alas! we found them in a state of gross
Heathenism; for they had not turned to the living
and true God — Darkknops covered the Earth, and
gross Darkknops all the people. Yet that fine
Missionary field appeared white to the harvest,
all prepared of the Lord to be reaped — but the
labourers were few, and as yet unacquainted with
the language of the people, and of course unable
to declare unto them the wonderful works of God,
excepting through the medium of an interpreter.
Mr. Ellis, one of our pious and worthy Missionaries in
this Island, and whom you probably recollect, accom-
panied us. In the course of two months he was able
to preach fluently and acceptably in the Owhyhean
Language, so strongly does it resemble the Tahitian,
when great attention was excited to the Gospel. We
had the pleasure of seeing congregations of four or five
hundred Natives attending with great decency and
apparent seriousness to the word, among whom
were the King, his wives, and most of the principal
chiefs. We also soon had the pleasure to see a concern
discover itself to learn to read among them, from the
King down to the lowest orders of Society, to a considerable
extent. Our most interesting visit terminated in a
request made by the King, the principal Chiefs, the
people and the American Missionaries for Mr. Ellis,
and one of the persons and his wife, whom we intended
to have left at the Marquesas, to settle among them
and join that Mission. The path of duty was obvious, and
with great pleasure we consented to gratify a wish that