

an opportunity to put a period to her own existence by hanging herself at a short distance from the body of her departed husband. None of the natives, nor even of her near relations appeared shocked or surprised at this incident. Her mother it is true wept, while she was composing the limbs of her daughter, for what another would not weep, but she nevertheless applauded her resolution and the sacrifice she had made for the man she so tenderly loved. Her father observed her corpse without any apparent concern. I could not discover a tear at the time it was brought before him. And two of her brothers smiled on the occasion, saying "it was a good thing at New Zealand". It is common for women to do thus when their husbands die. They think they then go to them. It appeared strange to me that the family could suppress the feelings of human nature on such an awful occasion, as I had always hitherto observed them very affectionate towards each other, and remarkable for their attention to the women who was now no more.

I learn from the natives that a few days after Quatermas' illness took a serious turn a watch was set during the night to observe whether a star could be discovered falling from the heavens, or whether one of those meteors falling which is often in England termed the shooting of a star. And upon the day he was seized with a kind of momentary delirium his priest concluded the event had taken place. Atao had then as it was conceived entered into him. Hence he was Taboo himself or a sacred person. No New Zealanders were permitted to come near him except the *Chungu* a priest and those of his own family. You know, Dear Sir.