

even the most enlightened, who do not firmly believe, that their Priests have some direct communication with their God. - and, as before observed, many of their Priests and others have told me, that they have personally heard such communications - which, considering their truth and integrity in other matters, is something surprising. -

This is, however, a subject of such a mysterious nature, that I cannot make up my mind to believe, or disbelieve a circumstance so generally credited in this Island: nor can I pretend to know, how far the agency of Satan may extend over a barbarous, uncivilized people, who have no law, human or divine, to restrain the corrupt passions of men! -

This I am fully convinced of, that in all regular civil governments, where wholesome laws restrain men's turbulent passions; that the secret agency of the evil spirit, who "worketh in the hearts of the children of disobedience", is greatly restrained, and the force of his wicked instigations, weakened, and, under the divine blessing, counteracted by ^{means of} such laws. - I have dropt these remarks, as they occurred to me at the moment, and shall now go on with my narrative. —

We continued conversing on the foregoing subjects, till late in the evening —

Timmoranga said there were too many Priests in the Island, and that they prayed and tabooed the people to death. — He then related what happened to himself, when going with me to Lowranga