

They were a fine-looking race, though forming rather a motley group. The manner of carrying their children particularly attracted our notice; it had a pleasing effect. We found it afterwards practised throughout Polynesia. Many questions were put to me, and now and then I could hear a voice saying, "Me ship, captain; me go Tahiti." All were more or less clothed in the cast-off garments of whites, and not very particular whether they possessed one, two, or parts of garments, as long as it appeared different from their own tapa, and of foreign fashion. This appeared more ridiculous, for on our first landing few were to be seen except in their native dresses, but shortly afterwards one might have believed the contents of all the old clothes shops of one



MODE OF CARRYING CHILDREN.

of our cities had been distributed among them: storm pea-jackets, light summer pantaloons, vests, capes of overcoats, bell-crowned hats, checked and red flannel shirts, most of which were torn or worn threadbare in many places; whilst the women had bedecked themselves with cocoa-nut oil and turmeric, giving them a bright orange cast. Their heads were adorned with flowers, and they evidently considered themselves in their holiday attire. They had an abundance of pigs and poultry. The rich soil on the upper and interior part of the island produced taro (*Arum esculentum*), sweet-potatoes (*Convolvulus batatas*), melons, yams, and some tobacco, while the bread-fruit and cocoa-nuts were hanging in clusters over their dwellings. They had also an abundance of crabs and fish; on our landing we found