

Bird Catching

Kuokoa, Nov. 12, 1920. Ka Moololo o Hema, ke Koaie Ku Pali, etc.

See page 36 in translated copy.

"When it was light, he was in the lehua grove bending down the branches so as to reach the flowers". He broke off most of the lehua blossoms leaving but a few which he gummed. He did this from one tree to another. This method of bird catching was called kahekahe and the early morning was the best time to catch birds. Later in the day, there were no birds for then they had stopped coming to the lehua blossoms. When he knew that he had enough gummed flowers he went back and found a large number of birds caught on his gum. He turned to gather them up. As he went along picking up the birds, other birds were being caught in the same places. He went back three times and broke off the branches so as not to catch any more. He then turned to go to the lowland with the birds.

As he walked home he tied an olona rope around his waist, broke off branches of ti leaves and tied them around him like a hula skirt. This was to be used as wrappers for the birds he was carrying home.