

to visit places on the opposite side of the island, in preference to passing over the mountains.

At sunset they reached Otapuna, which is a large village, pleasantly situated on a low point of land, covered with orange, bread-fruit, and cocoa-nut trees. In this place Utami, one of the principal chiefs, who is governor of this district, resides. With him our travellers took up their quarters. His dwelling differs from other native houses, in being divided into rooms, and having floors of plank; indeed every thing about his establishment indicated more refinement than they had yet met with. His table was set out after the European fashion, and he gave them tea made of a native herb.

Utami is a very intelligent person, and had been one of Pomare's great captains. He related many anecdotes of the struggle in 1815, which by his account appeared to have been a sanguinary one. He stated, that on the retreat of the heathen party, all their prisoners were put to death, by beating out their brains with clubs; that numbers of them had been forced over precipices; and that many had fled even to the summits of the mountains, where they remained until a general pardon and amnesty had been proclaimed by Pomare. Even this was not accepted by all, for many remained in the wild and dreary regions of the mountains, refusing to embrace the new religion; and of these some had continued to exist until within the last five or six years. Utami was of opinion that this remnant was now extinct.

Among other things, he informed them that the wild race which had previously inhabited the island, were accustomed to roam all over it; but that since they had been subdued or exterminated, none but the cutters of sandal-wood had been accustomed to enter the mountainous regions. These had been in the habit of ascending the most difficult peaks by the aid of ropes, and of steps cut in the rock, but he was of opinion that no one now remained who knew the way.

Utami was a fine-looking white-headed man, of giant proportions, and when speaking of his former deeds in arms, showed a great deal of fire and animation. Before he retired to rest he read a chapter in the Bible, and made a prayer, with much apparent devotion. He seems to have a great disposition to adopt European improvements, and was engaged in building a house, which when finished will be the best in the island. The floors will be all laid with plank; it will have partitions of boards, and large windows with Venetian blinds.

This village is the next in size and importance to Papieti.

When this party first descended to the beach and reached Mirapahé, they found a vessel on the stocks there. This enabled them to obtain