

children around him. I found him in a small house, enjoying the afternoon breeze, with his daughter playing about him. She was about fifteen years of age, and decidedly the prettiest girl we had seen in this group; her name was Emma, and she was as intelligent as she was pretty.

The chief, whose hair was white with age, made us warmly welcome, and wished to go over to his *fale-tele* to receive us as became chiefs, but this I would not permit. His wives busied themselves in getting things in order, very much after the fashion of other parts of the world, when a stranger arrives unexpectedly. In a few minutes the fine mats were laid, the stools, calabashes, and straw put away. A clean shirt was slipped over the old man's head while my attention was called off to another object.

Malietoa's house was not larger than the others in the village, and exhibited no other difference from them than in containing a dais or platform, occupying about a third of it, and raised about a foot higher than the rest of the floor.

When the domestic arrangements were completed, large bunches of bananas and fresh cocoa-nuts were brought in and presented to us. Mr. Wilson was an excellent interpreter, and by his aid I had a long and agreeable talk with the old chief, who, when his wars were touched upon, appeared full of fire and animation.

I intimated my desire to have a conference with the ruling chiefs, for the purpose of transacting business, whereupon he readily assented to call a *fono*, and appointed the 4th of November as the earliest day on which he could possibly get the chiefs, a part of whom must come from Savaii, together. This day he named himself, after having made a reckoning of the six intervening days upon his fingers; I observed, however, that he found it necessary to repeat the count several times. Having transacted this business with him, and regaled ourselves on his hospitable fare, we took our leave.

On reaching the Peacock, I found that none of her surveying parties had returned, and the Flying-Fish was still missing; I thus became satisfied that I should be detained here for several days. I therefore sent orders for the Vincennes to make for the harbour, where she anchored in the afternoon, near the Peacock.

The next day, parties were despatched in various directions, so as to bring all parts of the island under examination at the same time.

One of these excursions was made across the island. On arriving at the highest point of the ridge, between Siuma and Siusinga, which has an elevation of two thousand and fifty feet, and just before the descent began, a clearing was found, in which were two mounds of earth, each