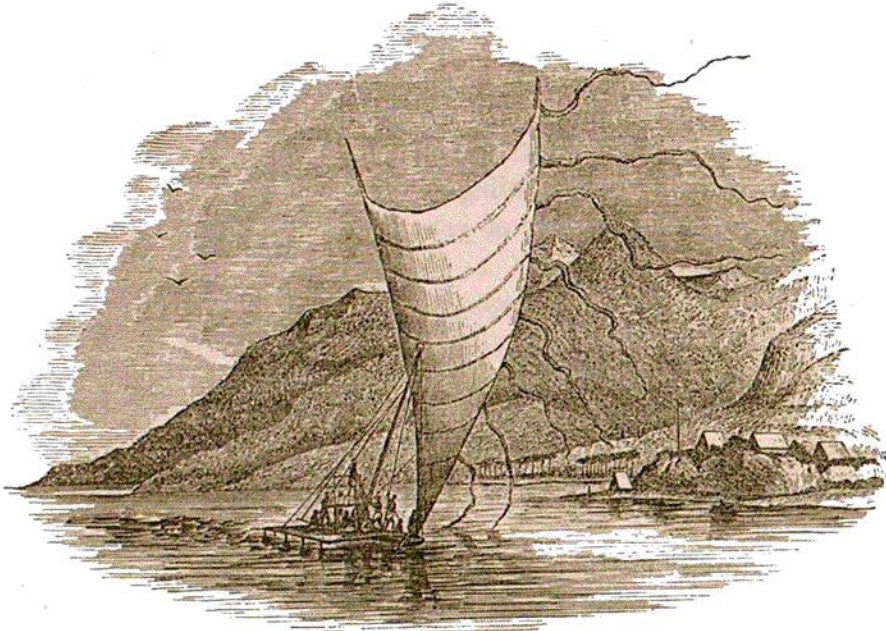


of the loss we met with before leaving this group, and taught, when too late, the necessity of obeying strictly the orders of their commanding officer, whether absent or present.



TANOA'S CANOE.

On the 12th, whilst engaged at the observatory, the canoe of Tanoa, the King of Ambau, was discovered rounding the southern point of the island: it had a magnificent appearance, with its immense sail of white mats; the pennants streaming from its yard, denoted it at once as belonging to some great chief. It was a fit accompaniment to the magnificent scenery around, and advanced rapidly and gracefully along; it was a single canoe, one hundred feet in length, with an outrigger of large size, ornamented with a great number (two thousand five hundred) of the *Cypræa ovula* shells; its velocity was almost inconceivable, and every one was struck with the adroitness with which it was managed and landed on the beach.*

Tanoa disembarked, accompanied by his attendants, who are generally Tonga men, forty of whom had the direction and sailing of his canoe. Shortly after landing, he was met by Mr. Vanderford, who had formerly been shipwrecked here, and who had lived under his

* I was told that Tanoa frequently amuses himself, when sailing, by running down canoes, leaving those who belong to them to recover their canoe and property the best way they can.