

Whilst he was employed in sketching these, he witnessed the delivery of their tribute by the people of Kantavu. When the king was seated in state, with his principal officers around him, the chiefs of Kantavu appeared, each encircled with many folds of tapa and mats. After leaving their clubs, &c., near the door, they entered, crouching upon their hands and feet, and thus passed round the semicircle to their appointed places. Their chief continued to proceed towards the king, and when near, presented his majesty with a whale's tooth, neatly slung in the manner of a powder-horn. The king, on receiving it, answered, "Endina." The chief then retired, and was followed by another, who, after disburdening himself of the tapa in which he was enveloped, gave place to another, and so on to the last. Each offering was acknowledged by the king in the same tone of voice and manner. When all had been received, they retired in the same order they had entered, and the king took especial care to place the new acquisitions among his valuables. This was understood to be the tribute for a year.

These presents are usually received in the square before the king's house, and a dance generally follows. But owing to the heavy rains, which had converted, not only this spot, but the whole of Rewa, into a mud-puddle, they were deprived of an opportunity of witnessing one of these tribute dances; a deprivation which they much regretted, for foreigners seldom have an opportunity of seeing them.

The expedition under Lieutenant Budd, that went to explore the river, had now returned, after having proceeded forty-five miles above Rewa, which is ten miles farther than it had been before ascended. The party consisted of Lieutenant Budd, Passed Midshipman Davis, and Mr. Peale, with two boats. They left the ship at one o'clock, and in consequence of rain took refuge in an mbure at the town of Vatia. There they found a large quantity of arms, collected by a tax on each male, of a spear, club, &c. These being kept in a consecrated place, the wounds made by them are considered as always fatal, while the same kind of injury by a new or unconsecrated spear would heal. They had here an opportunity of seeing the reverence paid to Phillips, who is a very high chief. Whenever the natives saw him, they invariably dropped on their hams until he passed; when he spoke to them, they clapped the palms of their hands together; and in his presence none presumed to walk upright.

In the village they saw quantities of the cyrenas and lingula shells, the tenants of which had been eaten by the inhabitants. They found subsequently on their trip, that the former made excellent soup. This village is famous for its pottery, and some earthen jars were seen that would hold a barrel of water. The clay of which they are made is