

growth of reeds. Beyond them are well-cultivated fields of taro, yams, and bananas, as before described; all giving evidence of the overflowing of the banks. Islets were continually passed, and many towns containing from two or three hundred to a thousand inhabitants. Numerous creeks disembogued on both sides.

The town of Nou Sourì was next passed. Here the chief Cornubalavoo sent presents to them—he is the cousin of Phillips—and afterwards accompanied them up the river in a canoe.

About seven miles up from Rewa is a creek leading to Ambau, which is passable for canoes at high water. The town of Natacallo is here situated, and the first rise of hills takes place. This is one of their great battle-grounds, and was, according to Phillips, the scene of many of his deeds, which he recounted.

About a mile above this there is a bar which extends nearly across the river. The channel lies close to the hills, which are two hundred feet in height. Below this bar the banks of the river are all alluvial. There is here an elbow in the river, above which is the town of Capavoo, of four hundred inhabitants, which was the scene of one of the bloody attacks of the Ambau people under the notorious Charley Savage. It is said that he was afterwards killed near Mbua or Sandalwood Bay, and so great was the enmity of the natives towards him, that he was not only eaten, but his bones were ground to powder and drunk in their ava. Phillips mentioned that a daughter of this notorious villain is now married to one of the king's brothers, at Rewa. Stopping in the evening for the men's supper, they saw many fine shaddock trees in full fruit along the banks, and Mr. Peale shot a beautiful parrot, with very gay blue and red plumage; he also obtained two ducks. Phillips says the low islands have been formed in the river by the frequent floods from the mountains, "*since he has had whiskers.*" His age is supposed to be thirty-five years.

The native houses hereabouts are constructed with a solid basement surrounded with piles, to prevent their being washed away on the occurrence of the floods.

At night they stopped at the town of Coronganga, about eighteen miles above the mouth of the river. Here they took possession of the mbure, and with the assistance of Mr. Phillips's white steward, they made themselves quite comfortable. The same deference and respect were paid Phillips here as they had before observed; but, notwithstanding this, Lieutenant Budd and party took every precaution to prevent surprise, to convince the natives that their watchfulness was never asleep.

The banks showed a rise and fall of the water during the night. It