

In the mean time, I obtained my return meridian distances and the night observations.

Before I left Levuka, Seru, Tanoa's eldest son, paid us another visit, and brought some hogs and other provisions, as a present. On this occasion, his conduct towards Mr. Vanderford was not what it should have been, for he appropriated some of that officer's property to himself. I regret I did not learn this until some time afterwards, for I had no opportunity of speaking to Seru again; but I sent him word that his conduct was not approved of, and he must not take such a liberty again.

Orders were left with Lieutenant Carr to despatch Lieutenant Underwood and Passed Midshipman Sandford, with two boats, to survey the islands of Ambatiki, Nairai, and Angau, all of which are in sight from Ovolau.

At five o'clock the next morning we were under way, in the tender, with two boats of the Vincennes in company, and crossed over to Wakaia, where I left Passed Midshipmen Knox and May to survey that island and Mokungai, with their reefs. Here I fixed a station, and observed, with the theodolite, on the distant signals. I then made an endeavour to get out of the reef, but the weather looking bad, I put back and anchored in a snug bay, which I had called Flying-Fish Harbour. This is on the west side of the island of Wakaia, and has two passages through the reef to it.

The next morning we again got under way, and stood for Nemenā, or Direction Island, where we anchored, after passing through a narrow passage in its outlying reef. Direction Island forms two high regular hills, covered with a dense foliage. It is not inhabited, being only occasionally resorted to for turtles by the natives.

On the 7th, we were engaged in the survey of the island and reef, with the boats, while I fixed a station on its western summit, where I passed the day observing for longitude and latitude and angles, on all the points, peaks, and signals, in sight.

In the evening, we sailed for Vuna Island. The wind was very light, and we did not make much progress, but spent the greatest part of the next day in getting up with the island. Not wishing to be detained, I took my gig and pulled for Somu-somu, where I communicated with the missionaries, Messrs. Hunt and Lythe, who had heard nothing of the Porpoise; and as the townspeople were rather uproarious, keeping a feast, I thought it advisable that I should repair to the small island of Corolib, about a mile and a half from it in the strait. Towards dark, not seeing any thing of the tender, and having been supplied with some yams, &c., by the missionaries, I went to the island