

occasioned by the presence of Tubou Totai, who acknowledged that some years ago he had landed on this island and killed sixty of the inhabitants, in consequence of their having destroyed a Tonga canoe, with all on board.

Tubou, in order to remove their apprehensions, made them a speech, assuring them of his friendly disposition. As is usual among the other islands of the group, they applauded at every sentence, by clapping hands, in which Tubou himself joined. Confidence was quickly restored, the natives flocking around, exhibiting the greatest curiosity, examining the clothing, skins, and arms, of our people, and constantly uttering guttural sounds.

The chief of this island (Munia) had but one eye. He appeared somewhat under the influence of fear, but made some presents of bananas and cocoa-nuts, and complained much of his poverty. They returned on board at sunset.

The next day the boats were prepared for surveying. The launch and another boat, under Lieutenants Johnson and Maury, were sent to circumnavigate the large island. Parties were also despatched to get wood and water. Mr. Totten and Dr. Holmes ascended the highest peak of Munia, called Telanicolo, the measurement of which, by sympiesometer, gave one thousand and fifty-four feet above the level of the sea. This peak is composed of volcanic masses, with high, craggy, and overhanging cliffs. The ascent proved difficult, for the path passed over steep hills and along the edges of the rocks, and it was in places so narrow that only one person could pass at a time. A few men might defend the ascent against an army. Upon the summit they found the ruins of a small village; some of the huts were, however, kept in repair, as refuge in times of danger. The view from the top they describe as beautiful, many of the other islands being in sight. The natives who accompanied them, to carry the instruments, &c., behaved well, and were amply rewarded. All the natives yet seen by the Porpoise were exceedingly fond of tobacco, a very small piece of which is an ample reward for a long service. Some thefts were committed from the boats by the natives who assisted in bringing the water, but on speaking to the chief they were quickly returned. He at the same time pointed out the thieves, and requested they might be killed.

The island of Munia contains about eighty inhabitants, and the settlement is on the western side, where water may be obtained in small quantities.

Ticumbia lies five miles to the northeast of Munia. It bears a close resemblance to Munia, but is much smaller; the inhabitants are about seventy in number. This island affords but little water.