

rule over nearly the whole island. The bay of Sandalwood was then thickly populated, and appeared to enjoy much political consideration in the group. Since the accession of the present Tui Mbua, Makatu, its authority is very much decreased, and it now is of scarcely any consideration at all. Makatu was born in the district of Nandi, but was a vasu of Mbua, and managed, when Rawaike died, to be chosen king. Since that time they have had continual civil wars, in which many of the people have been killed, while others have sought a different abode. This last war, to which Captain Hudson put a momentary cessation, had lasted more than five months, during which time they had killed upwards of fifty of the enemy, and lost about thirty of their own men. Among the reasons assigned for not coming to terms long before was "the fear of being clubbed by the opposite party through treachery."

One of the surveying boats, with Passed Midshipman Blunt, returned from the island of Yendua, with James Strahan, seaman, belonging to the Vincennes, who had fallen from a tree while cutting a sprit, and broken his leg. The boat was again despatched, with an extra quantity of provisions, to make up for that consumed by the delay the accident had occasioned.

On the 9th, many natives were on board, and gave an exhibition of a war-dance (dimba) on deck: many of the officers thought it bore a striking resemblance to the war-dance of New Zealand. The performers held a paddle in one hand, while with the other they struck their thighs, keeping time to a song from the whole. They moved slowly forward and backward, in a bending posture. On the finishing of the chorus they stopped simultaneously and stood upright, the leader repeating, in a hurried loud tone, a short recitative, which the rest answered by their usual guttural shout, huh! huh! huh! flourishing their paddles in the air in great excitement.

On the 10th, Mr. Spieden, purser of the Peacock, visited the shore for the purpose of purchasing provisions, and notice was given that all the produce they would bring would be purchased. In consequence of this the natives brought a quantity of yams, taro, papaws, shaddocks, lemons, &c., together with an abundance of crabs, of which, all that the boat could carry were purchased. Hatchets, knives, plane-irons, scissors, beads, fish-hooks, looking-glasses, red cloth, and red paint were given in return, of which the two latter articles were preferred. As Mr. Spieden was not able to carry away all they had collected, their expectations of a market were not realized, and they threw the remainder into the river, saying they had been told, "the white men never told lies, but they now saw they had two faces."