

are all built after the plan of those at Mbua Bay; the rafters being planted in the ground, and curved towards the ridge-pole, which is supported from within. The rafters are about one foot apart, and are covered with reeds, upon which the thatching is laid.

The chief's house was situated on a small square, on the opposite side of which were two temples, and between them was a kind of war-trophy, consisting of five of the large earthen jars used for cooking human flesh, placed in a row. Beside each of these, some spears and clubs were firmly planted in the ground, crossing each other at the top, about three feet from the ground; on these a basket was suspended, and long strips of masi or tapa were wreathed about and hung upon them. These five jars proved to be the vessels in which five of their enemies, whom they had killed in battle about two months before, had been cooked; the baskets were those which had been used at the feast to convey the food about to the cannibal eaters; the masi, spears, and war-clubs were those belonging to the slain. At a little distance there was another pot, in which a chief had been boiled, and behind these again was a basalt column,\* serving as a sepulchral monument to one of their own chiefs. The top of the latter was tied around with rolls of masi, and was surrounded by his spears, clubs, &c. There were a number of other columns lying about, all of which were taken from the same basaltic quarry between the landing and the village. These columns are very distinct and perfect.

The river that runs up near the village may be entered by boats, ascending through the mangroves some three or four miles, and has very much the character of those emptying into Mbua Bay. The river above the town is about seventy yards wide, and there has been a bridge over it, of which there are, even now, remains. The bridge appears to have been built on piles made of cocoa-nut trees, of which there is still a single row left, supported by stakes on each side.

Some of our gentlemen, in their wanderings under the guidance of the natives, were desired to come close to them, as a party was approaching; and shortly afterwards, a troop of native women and children were seen moving along in single file, some of them labouring under excessive loads. The women, in fact, are their beasts of burden, and are every where considered as an article of trade. Many of the natives were seen with gunshot wounds, received in the late war. Word was brought in that a native of another village had been killed, which created but little excitement.

\* These stones they call sava.