

all were engaged in dressing their hair with ashes and a white clay, each striving to vie with and outdo his neighbour.

On the 2d of July the Peacock sailed from Muthuata, and the king seemed very happy at the departure of the ship. In the evening they anchored in Nalua Bay, off the village of Fokasinga. A fleet of canoes came off to the ship the next morning, from which they learned that the war had again begun in earnest, and that Tui Mbuu's party had killed three of the people of the opposite party, in revenge for the death of the one who had been killed during the former visit of the Peacock. One human body had already been brought over and just feasted upon. Shortly afterwards a canoe came alongside, bringing the skull yet warm from the fire, much scorched, and marked with the teeth of those who had eaten of it. The brain had been roasted and taken out, as well as the eyes and teeth. Another canoe came alongside with some roasted flesh in it.

While Mr. Spieden and others were agreeing with the natives for the purchase of the skull for a fathom of cloth, a native stood near him holding something in his right hand, which he soon applied to his mouth, and began to eat. To their utter astonishment they discovered it to be the eye of the dead man, which the native had plucked from the skull a few moments before. So revolting and unexpected a sight produced a feeling of sickness in many; this ocular proof of their cannibal propensities fully satisfied them. The native was eating it, and exclaiming at the same time, "Vinaka, vinaka," (good, good.) Another was seen eating the last of the flesh from the thigh-bone. This was witnessed by several of the officers and men, who all testify to the same facts.

Previous to this occurrence, no one in the squadron could say that he had been an eye-witness to cannibalism, though few doubted its practice, but the above transaction placed it beyond all doubt, and we have now the very skull which was bought from those who were picking and eating it, among our collections.

Tui Mbuu came alongside with his family, and asked permission to remain all night, which was granted him. Mr. Agate succeeded in getting a good likeness of him.

Lieutenant Budd, and the boats under his charge, came alongside in the evening, and left the ship again the next morning to complete the survey and bring it down to Mbuu Bay.

The next day being the 4th of July, they beat through Monkey-Face Passage, and on reaching Ruke-ruke Bay, Captain Hudson anchored, after which the crew kept the 4th of July by feasting on a turtle, and enjoyed themselves with their double allowance of grog.