

furnished the most characteristic specimen of the appearance of this people, of any I had seen; but the imagination must supply the place of a bright red lock on the side of the head.



ASAU WOMAN.

From the top of Tau-tha-ke, the beautiful little bay of Ya-sau-y-lau appeared to lie at our feet, with the picturesque rock on its eastern side, having much resemblance to a ruined castle or impregnable fortress. This rock is entirely volcanic, with but little vegetation on it. Tradition states it to have been the abode of an immense bird, called Ya-sau-y-lau, which it is said was in the habit of frequenting Vitilevu, where it would pounce upon the first individual it met, and carry him off to its eyrie for food. The natives of Vitilevu held it in great dread for a long time, but desperation drove them to seek its abode on this rock, where they were so fortunate as to find the bird asleep on its nest, and killed it.

Tau-tha-ke was found to be seven hundred and eighty-one feet in height.

The boats' crews pitched their tents on shore for the night, near the schooner's anchorage. During our visit to Tau-tha-ke, although the natives appeared friendly, and were powerless from the late depredations, I thought it necessary to get the chief safe on board the tender as a hostage. I found him very ready to comply, for they were always sure of receiving presents when the time was up. After we returned on board, he remained during the evening, when we sent up some of our "fiery spirits," which greatly astonished him. He seemed to be more intelligent than the others we had met with. Through the interpreter I asked him several questions; among others, what would become of him and his people when they died. The answer was