

and that they had brought two of the chief's daughters as a present for the great chief. During the whole time that the old man was speaking, they all remained bent down with their heads to the ground.

I asked them many questions, and, among others, what had induced them to murder the little chiefs. They acknowledged that the officers had done them no harm, and confessed that they had been killed without the slightest cause. They stated that all the murderers were slain, and that the act was planned and executed by the people of Sualib, none of whom were then present, or could be found; and said that the persons present were the only ones uninjured. Some of the officers believed that they recognised several of them as having been in the fight. I then, through the interpreter, dwelt upon the atrocity of their crime, and pointed out to them how justly we were offended with them, and how much they deserved the punishment they had received. I told them they might consider themselves fortunate that we did not exterminate them; and farther assured them, that if ever a like act was committed, or any aggression on the whites again took place, the most terrible punishment would await them; that we did not wish to do them any harm, but came among them as friends, and wished to be treated as such; that they must now see the folly of opposing us, as they had lost their best warriors, while we had not lost one; that we never fought against women or children, and never received any gifts or presents; that I granted them pardon, but they must do as I was about to direct them.

I then told them, that to-morrow, very early, they must all come to the town of Arro unarmed, and bring back every article they had taken from the officers, with what provisions they could gather, and that they would be employed to bring water for the vessels. This was according to their customs, that the conquered should do work for the victors.

They readily assented to all these demands, but said that many of the articles belonging to the little chiefs must have been destroyed by fire, and that they knew not where to obtain them, or where to find any thing to eat. I knew that the last assertion was false, as I had seen many plantations on the northwest side of the island which had not suffered, and remained untouched. I therefore told them they must comply with all they had been ordered to do.

They were then dismissed, and instantly vanished from before us. Orders were now given to embark, and we reached the vessels at sunset.

I had great reason to be satisfied with the result of this day's proceedings; for I felt, that after administering to the savages a very