

from the brig, telling him that she was full of water. The captain took his spyglass to examine her, and while he was looking through it, one of the natives struck him on the head with a club, and killed him on the spot. They then rushed on the second officer and boatswain, and killed them also, although the death of the latter had not entered into their plans. The lives of the cook and steward were spared, and they were sent on shore.

Immediately after the murder of the captain, Rata Mura and Namosimalua went on board, and a general plunder began.

The native who gave the captain his mortal wound, was the adopted son of Namosimalua, and had been treated by the captain with great kindness, on which account he had long refused to join in the plot. At length, however, the chiefs of Ambau threatened to strangle him if he would not give his aid. After the deed was committed, he was seen in tears, and told those around him that he would not have done it except to save his own life.

The bodies were thrown overboard, and that of the captain was not again seen; but the other two drifted on shore, where Mr. Osborne and Charley obtained permission from the chiefs of Ambau to bury them.

From all that Mr. Osborne saw, he was satisfied that those chiefs were the instigators of the deed, and had forced Namosimalua into the plot. The natives of Ambau were seen the day after the act was committed, rejoicing and parading the streets, in the clothes of the murdered men. Many articles were also seen at the house of Namosimalua.

Mr. Osborne went on board the brig on the 22d July, and found the chiefs in the cabin engaged in dividing the spoil. They appeared disappointed, both in relation to the quality and quantity of the goods, for but little merchandise remained, and of arms no more than a few broken muskets. The crew, who were prisoners, were put to work to bend the sails and prepare the vessel for a cruise.

Mr. Osborne bought at Ambau, from a sailor, a few splendid ornaments that had belonged to Captain Bureau, which he sent to Manilla, by Captain Winn, of the ship *Eliza*, to be delivered to the French consul at that place, for the purpose of being forwarded to Captain Bureau's wife. He had not heard whether they reached their destination.

The natives at first expressed a desire to sell the vessel, but afterwards refused to do so. Instead of disposing of her, a large number of men were put on board, and sent up the river to attack the town of Nasilai, which had hitherto proved impregnable to the people of