

Ambau. The vessel's guns being fired against this town, soon compelled it to capitulate. On her return from this expedition, they ran her on shore on the eastern point of the mouth of the river that falls into the sea at Ambau, where she bilged and still lies a wreck.

An attack was also made on the English brig *Sir David Ogilby*, which was near proving successful. The particulars of this will give a further insight into the treacherous character of the Feejees.

Captain Hutchins, who commanded this vessel, had made arrangements to establish a *biche de mar* house at Verata, on the bay of Ambau. This was to have been under the direction of a man called Rewa Jack, who was to have managed it, with the aid of the native chiefs, while the vessel was employed in cruising among the islands. One pot had already been landed, and the trade-chest with manufactured goods, muskets, and whale's teeth, was on deck, ready to be sent on shore.

The vessel was in the act of getting under way, while a number of natives, among whom was Fimowlangi, the chief of Verata, were on deck, and many more in canoes alongside. The anchor being apeak, the crew were engaged in hoisting the fore-topsail, and one of them was in the foretop; the captain was walking the quarter-deck, with his cutlass in his hand, and just as he had cried "belay," Fimowlangi coming behind, struck him on the head with a club, and killed him instantly.

Fimowlangi, thinking that the death of the captain insured him possession of the vessel, jumped immediately into the cabin; but the mate, Mr. White, who saw the captain fall, ran to his assistance, although unarmed. He was immediately attacked by some of the natives, who had seized upon the captain's cutlass; with this they wounded Mr. White severely in several places, and he fell senseless on the body of the captain. One of the hands, named William Brooks, jumped overboard, where he was also killed. It so happened that an arm-chest with muskets and ammunition had been kept in the fore-top, with which the man who, as we have seen, was stationed there, began an effective fire upon the natives on deck. Two others, one of whom was Rewa Jack, succeeded in reaching the foretop; the rest ran below to seek arms, but were unable for a time to return to the deck, of which the natives had obtained complete possession. The fire from the foretop, however, became so destructive, that the natives began to jump overboard, and those who had gone below were enabled to return to the deck and regain possession of it.

The whole of these events occurred in less than ten minutes, during