

which a man of the name of Hunter, who had gone below, and was armed only with a hammer, had a scuffle with Fimowlangi, which was ended by the latter being shot, through the skylight, by one of the men who had regained the deck.

The vessel being thus recovered and under way, went on to Levuka, where she arrived the next day. During the passage, the bodies of the chief and of another native who was found wounded in the fore-castle, were thrown overboard.

It is supposed that this transaction was not the result of a concerted plot, but was conceived on the instant; for many of the natives appear to have been as much surprised as the crew. Had this not been the case, it is unlikely that the vessel could have been recaptured.

At Levuka, Captain Eagleston of the American brig Howard, finding that there was no officer left to navigate the brig, put her in charge of Mr. London, and sent her to Sydney, to the agent or owner, Mr. Neill, of that place. We mention, with regret, that Captain Eagleston has never received the slightest acknowledgment for this important service.

Vessels that visit Ambau are liable to many exactions, and to have all kinds of difficulties thrown in their way. It may be as well here to caution all traders against admitting canoes alongside, unless they have a quantity of provisions and other articles to trade. When hostilely inclined, they invariably have a few provisions, for the purpose of deception; but those who will take the trouble to examine, will soon discover the truth. When any work on board ship, such as getting under way, &c., is going on, the natives ought never to be suffered to be on deck, but should be kept in their canoes, and away from the vessel's side. Those that have the most experience of these savages invariably trust them the least.

After establishing bases by sound, we observed on all the remarkable points, and towards sunset anchored in the bay of Ambau. The next morning we got under way, with a light breeze from the westward. This wind amounts almost to a land-breeze, and frequently lasts until near noon. With its aid, we passed out of the Moturiki Passage, which has on its southern side the small islands of Leluvia and Thangala, and on its northern, that of Moturiki and its reefs. This passage is clear from obstructions, and is one mile and a half in length by half a mile wide. An east-by-south course (per compass) leads through it, and when Black Peak, on Vitilevu, can be seen, it is a good leading mark. The tide sets with some strength through the passage, the flood running to the westward, or in, and the ebb to the eastward, or out. There is safe anchorage, either under Leluvia or Moturiki, on their