

portions of the flags stolen as he had been able to recover, soliciting pardon for the offence of his people, and making an offering of ten hogs and one thousand yams for the flags not returned. This offering, Captain Hudson received, determining before leaving to repay their full value.

Captain Eagleston, in the *Leonidas*, having completed his cargo of *biche de mar* at Mali, again anchored at Muthuata, and communicated that Gingi, the chief suspected of the murder of Cunningham, had told him that the old king of Muthuata had never sent after the murderers as he had promised.

An officer was at once sent on shore, with David Whippy as interpreter, to tell the king what had been heard, and to demand the murderers forthwith. The king, on his part, made many asseverations that he had uttered no lies, and had not deceived us, but had made every attempt to take the murderers; that his people were now in the bush, and that when they returned he would call a meeting, and let Captain Hudson know in the morning.

The Porpoise joined the squadron from Ovolau, on the 7th of August.

As nothing was heard from the king, Lieutenant Walker was despatched on shore, with the interpreter, to ascertain the cause. The king replied, that he was afraid, for the people of the town of Naven-darra, where the murder had taken place, had sent him word, "That if he interfered, they would come and burn him out." This proved what had been for a long time suspected, that the old king's power was all but extinct; and Captain Hudson, under the circumstances, did not feel justified in punishing them.

The day before his departure, he paid the king and chiefs a visit, gave them some advice relative to their future conduct, and mentioned to them that he was going away. The king and chiefs, with great naïveté, replied that they were extremely glad to hear it, for they had been in constant dread of having their town burnt, in consequence of the number of lies that were constantly told to him of them.

During the stay of the vessels at Muthuata, one of the mountaineers who frequented the town, stole a comb from the king's house. On search being made, the thief was discovered among the mangrove-bushes, where he was captured and taken before the king, who ordered his punishment after the following mode. They laid him on a canoe-mast, about seven inches in diameter, one end resting on a log a little above the ground; his hands were tied, and his arms stretched beyond