

On the 2d of August, a total eclipse of the moon occurred. It began about 8 p. m., and the moon was totally obscured until two o'clock in the morning. When it emerged, it was of a blood-red colour, which it retained until it set. The natives were in great consternation, and said that it foreboded the death of some great chief, and the destruction of some town. On the strength of it, Whippy says, the mountain chiefs on Ovolau began to quarrel, and four of them were severely wounded in a fight, but none killed. The chief of Levuka sent his son to try and make peace among them, but with little effect.

The chief of Rewa's brother, Mr. Phillips, who had fled to Ambau, returned to Rewa, which he was again ordered to leave; but he refused, and is determined to fight if his brother should undertake to compel him.

The islands are becoming worse every day, for the tyrant Seru is depopulating them, and will do a great deal of harm if his career be not stopped. He is now, in fact, king, for Tanoa does not dare to act without Seru's permission. He is constantly sending to the white men at Levuka for their property, and notwithstanding his demands are complied with, he continues to threaten to break their heads. To please him they find to be impossible, and Whippy writes, if his reign be not shortened, their lives will be.

Several trading vessels have been at Malolo, who all speak of the natives, both there and in the neighbourhood, as being very friendly and civil.

Several vessels had arrived and were fishing for biche de mar, but without much success. The wars and massacres constantly occurring had, in a great measure, put a stop to all the labours of the natives, and had turned their attention from all peaceful pursuits.

In the latter part of July, both the towns of Levuka were totally destroyed by fire, which took place in the dead of the night. Whippy and the rest lost all their property; books, papers, &c., were all burnt, but no lives were lost. The town, however, was fast rebuilding, and would be much improved.

The missionaries and their families are all well at Somu-somu, but they have made no converts. Mr. Cross complains that the Viwa chief, Naugarrasia, had turned out a hypocrite, after having deceived him for a year. The missionaries are making no further progress at Rewa, and the troubles there will prevent any. They have not yet been favoured with a missionary teacher at Levuka, which these respectable men have been long endeavouring to obtain. They are