

somu: he was now about joining in the war against his own relatives. He was remarkably fine-looking, tall, and well made, and dressed out in the extreme of the Feejee fashion.

Provisions were in great abundance, but not for sale, as they were reserving them all for the great feast to celebrate the commencement of the war. Aliko, their former and favourite pilot, who had been left at Muthuata, now returned with some canoes, bringing a refusal on the part of old Tui Muthuata to engage himself openly in any conflict with Tanoa of Ambau, which was a great disappointment to the people of Somu-somu.

Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold having now settled all the business for which he had been despatched to Somu-somu, took his departure at daylight on the 18th for Turtle or Vatoa Island, in search of the ship Shylock, of Rochester, Massachusetts, Charles Taber, master. The particulars respecting the loss of this vessel are as follows:

On the 21st of June, 1840, at 6 P. M., Turtle Island bore southeast, according to their reckoning, distant thirty miles, and they were steering north under all sail, with a man on the look-out; at about ten o'clock P. M., the reef was discovered close aboard, and before they had time to avoid it, the ship struck. Two boats were at once lowered, in which the master, first mate, and sixteen hands embarked, leaving the second mate and six men on board the vessel.

These boats at twelve o'clock bore away for the Friendly Islands. After two days they reached the island of Toofona, on which they landed and obtained some food. The next morning they again left Toofona for Vavao, stopping on their way for two or three days, at the Hapai Islands, where they were kindly treated by the missionaries. On the ninth day they reached Vavao, the whole distance being about three hundred and fifty miles. The captain, mate, and part of the crew, embarked there in a missionary schooner, bound for the Feejee Islands, and arrived a few days after at Somu-somu, where several of them joined our squadron.

As usual, while under the lee of the island, the Porpoise experienced light winds and hot weather. On the 25th of August they made the island of Ono, in latitude  $21^{\circ}$  S., longitude  $179^{\circ}$  W., and the same day saw Turtle Island, bearing east-by-north. At daylight on the 26th, Turtle Island was in sight from the deck of the Porpoise, about twelve miles distant. In the afternoon they were up with it, and were boarded by a canoe, with a white man, who said he was a seaman belonging to the schooner Currency Lass, which vessel, on hearing of the Shylock's disaster, had gone there in search of any of the cargo that