

the town, contrived to cause objections to be made to this application of the building, and the natives, finally, after raising many difficulties and throwing obstacles in the way, refused it altogether, and would listen to no proposition to build a church. This was quietly borne, and Mr. Mills held the meetings in the open air, under a large tree near by. One day, as they were engaged in service, and the whole congregation was seated around in their best attire, a violent shower came up. All looked to the preacher, who was Mr. Mills, for an adjournment; but he was too fervent, and continued his exhortations until the whole were well drenched, and their finery of tapa, &c., which cannot stand the wet, spoiled. This taught them a lesson, and they not only agreed to the use of the fale-tele, but set about heart and hand to build the church.

On the arrival of Mr. Williams, Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold was informed that a man by the name of Gideon Smith, a native of Bath, Massachusetts, late of the ship *Herald*, of Dorchester, had been murdered by a small chief, named Tagi, at the instigation of Sangapabetele, chief of the towns of Saluafata, Fusi, and Saleleso. The assigned cause was, that Smith had not been faithful to his promise of giving Tagi some small articles. He was, in consequence, waylaid and killed at night by Tagi. (See Mr. Williams's letter and affidavit, in Appendix XX.)

Mr. Williams and the British consul, Mr. Cunningham, held an examination of the murderer and his family, and the circumstances all clearly proved the murder to have been most deliberate.

It will be recollected that, according to the rules and regulations of the king and chiefs, assembled in fono, at Apia, murderers were to be given up to the first man-of-war of our nation which should visit the island. Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold, with the consul, proceeded, on the morning of the 8th of September, to Saluafata, to demand the murderer from the chief in whose town he resided. They reached that place at an early hour, and made the demand of the chief Sangapabetele. A council of the chiefs was at once assembled, when all united in the deliberate falsehood, that the murderer had escaped, but that they had sent in pursuit of him. They ended by promising that, as soon as he was caught he should be delivered at Apia.

Three deserters from the American ship *Lorne*, which was at anchor in the harbour, were then demanded; and these men were promptly caught and delivered over the next day, to the master of the *Lorne*, by the chief of Saluafata.

The chiefs and people of Upolu, including even our old friend Pea, and his natives of Apia, boasted much of the failure of our attempt to