

P. S. If you require it, I will without delay furnish a more minute detail of my proceedings.

Respectfully,

C. RINGGOLD.

COPY OF THE REPORT OF LIEUTENANT ALDEN.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
Feejee Islands, August 1st, 1840.

SIR,—

In compliance with your instructions, I have the honour to submit to you the following report of transactions which fell under my observation, between the 21st and 24th ultimo. At daylight on the morning of the 22d, the Flying-Fish stood to sea from the anchorage near the south end of Naviti Island. Soon after, I followed with the boats, and made the best of my way towards my destination. At sunset, the wind failing, anchored under one of the small islands to the northward of Malolo. Next morning got under way, and at 5 P. M. anchored in the harbour on the east side of that island. Supposing it possible that the Porpoise had anchored on the opposite side, where you had directed me to join her, I despatched Lieutenant Underwood with directions to land near the opening between the islands, where, by ascending a slight eminence, he would have a view of her anchorage; communicating to him my doubts of the good feeling of the natives, with which I had been impressed in the short time I had had of observing their conduct on my previous cruise, also that we had held no intercourse with them; directing him at the same time to be well armed, and return before sunset. A few minutes after he had landed, I saw him return to his boat, with one of his crew, who had landed with him, and a native; at the same time I observed certain movements among a party of natives, who at the moment appeared around the point near which Lieutenant Underwood's boat was lying, and with whom he appeared to hold conversation. I immediately hoisted his recall, which was promptly obeyed. After reporting no vessel in sight, he informed me of the following circumstances, which had occurred during his short absence.

As he ascended the hill, already referred to, he suddenly came upon a native carrying an armful of clubs, who, the moment he perceived Lieutenant Underwood, threw down his burden and attempted flight, but was detained and made to follow them towards the boat. When he arrived on the beach, the party of whom I have spoken approached,