

wishing to drive Smith away and retain the jacket, took away the woman for three successive nights. He, Smith, left the house, on account of this usage, on Friday night, 10th instant, and came to Maitland's lodgings, at twelve o'clock at night, bringing with him three axes, four fathoms of cloth, a shawl, and a tapa, all of which belonged to the family of Palasi. He stated that the people had taken his jacket and detained the woman; that he had taken these articles till they should think proper to return the jacket. These articles were placed in Maitland's chest. The next morning, Palasi and his wife came and inquired for Smith, and said, "Keep the articles, but give me my white man." Smith refused to go, and said all he wanted was his jacket, which was soon after brought and delivered to Smith, who then returned all the aforesaid articles which he had taken away. Maitland advised Smith not to leave the village, or walk about till the anger of the family was over. Deceased walked in the evening, in company with Maitland, to Murivai, a division of the village of Sa-luafata.

Hearing that two white men had arrived from a distance, and were waiting at a neighbouring house, Smith said he wished to go to them, in order to fetch them to where Maitland and he then were, the distance of which did not exceed three hundred yards.

Maitland advised him not to go, as there might be danger; but as he persisted, Maitland told him to be particular and look well about him. The moon was near the full, and the night clear, the fires having been lighted about an hour. About half an hour after Smith left, a native came with food to Maitland. A few minutes after, another native came and inquired for Smith. The native who first came then said, "He had stepped in something on the road: it could not have been water, it must have been blood." Now Seumu said he was afraid something had happened to Smith, as he had been visited by Vave alias Tagi, Palasi's brother, having in his hand an axe, inquiring at the same time for Smith, who he (Vave) said had a piece of siapo or tapa of his. He then said to a boy near Tui, "Come with me and seek Smith." On hearing this, Maitland ran to some white men and gave the alarm. Having procured lights, they all went to where the native said he had stepped in blood. When they found the blood, the alarm was general; the natives were assembled and searching for the body of the deceased. Maitland was not on the spot when the body was found, but came a few minutes afterwards. The corpse had one cut on the right side of the neck, which nearly severed the head from the body; another deep cut on the left side of the neck; a deep cut, seemingly with an axe, on the breast; another cut on the back of the