

Mr. Williams assured me that the halos and parhelia were usually followed by bad weather.

At Apia, among their old acquaintances, they encountered Pea, the ruling chief of the place, whose begging propensities still existed in all their force. His form was equally rotund, and his desire of being of service quite as great. Report spoke of him as having become very religious of late, but his covetousness had not diminished in consequence, at least in the opinion of our officers. He was generally full of business, among his friends and relatives, all of whom he considers more or less as his dependants. He was very anxious to be informed what had become of his relative, Tuvai, the murderer, whom we had carried away from these islands on our former visit.

The missionaries were as attentive as formerly to the officers, and gave them every facility that lay in their power of spending their time usefully. They have been making progress in their efforts to civilize these natives, by establishing schools, and stimulating them to improve their condition. Almost every village now has its substantial white-washed church, which also serves for a school-house; and, from the reports, both continue to be well attended. Some improvements were seen to have taken place in the dwellings, the arrangement of the interior having a more civilized look, not only from the numerous articles of European manufacture, but in an improved state of ventilation. The cattle and horses were on the increase, and there are few natives but have supplies of pigs, poultry, and the vegetables of the island.

Purser Speiden, who was the officer charged with procuring supplies, and superintending the trade with the natives, having found much difficulty in obtaining them alongside the ship, received permission to make arrangements for a suitable place on shore. For this purpose he procured a place to erect a pen for the pigs, &c. To show the exorbitant demands of the natives, and their desire to practise imposition, I will state the difficulties he encountered. In the first place, he had to pay for the site on which to build a pen; secondly, for the logs and poles to build it with; thirdly, for going after the timbers; fourthly, for building the pen; fifthly, for transferring the live-stock to it; sixthly, for services to a native to watch the pigs during the day and see that they did not escape; seventhly, to pay a man to collect cocoa-nuts for food; eighthly, to pay a woman to feed them; and ninthly, to pay a man to watch the pigs, taro, &c., during the night. Besides this, there was a charge made for trading under the large tree! This traffic seldom failed to afford much amusement to the lookers-on. In the centre, near the trunk of the