

hensions of the people, and the madness of any hostile movement with so small a party as that under my command (twelve men). Trusting that an easy and confident deportment on my part would allay their fears, I passed a watchword to the boats, and lay down to sleep.

On the next morning, observing that a large number of men had left the town, we again confidently contemplated the success of our enterprise. With the ostensible purpose of taking leave, but with the design of attempting to carry him off, Lieutenant De Haven and myself called to see Malietoa; when, to our surprise, we learned that after holding a council he had left the town at an early hour.

We immediately proceeded to the west side of Cocoa-nut Point, whence I despatched M'Gill to ascertain, if possible, the whereabouts of George Tongaloa, in which he did not succeed.

At Apia, I learned that the chief Sangapolutale had been last seen at the town of Saluafata, on the morning of the day on which it was burnt.

Amid the vexation of disappointment, I have the satisfaction to believe that our conduct afforded no reason to suspect our purpose.

With great respect,

I am, &c.,

WILLIAM M. WALKER,

Lieutenant.

CAPTAIN WM. L. HUDSON,

U. S. Ship Peacock.

U. S. Ship Peacock,

At Sea, March 6th, 1841.

SIR,—

Agreeably to your instructions of the 26th of February, I proceeded with the schooner Flying-Fish, and this ship's second cutter, off the island of Manono. The weather being unfavourable, laid off and on the first night; the following morning ran into a bight, formed by the reef uniting Manono and Upolu, and anchored on broken bottom, sheltered from all but northerly winds. This day being Saturday, and consequently, the natives' Sunday, was unfavourable for the execution of my plans in capturing the chief Pea, but allowed me an opportunity of disguising my intentions, by going through the usual routine of surveying, sounding, &c., which I continued employed at most of the day, landing occasionally on points of the island, to measure angles. Upon these occasions, the natives crowded around, and asked many unusual questions; and from their general manner, I could see that they were very suspicious, and considerably alarmed, which