

course conciliate his good-will, to obtain the necessary assistance. A missionary resides there, through whom you may effect this desirable end.

On your reaching Duff's Reef, which I think you will do prior to, or by the 1st of June, you will put into the Harbour of Somu-somu, where you will find me, or orders directing your movements.

In the discharge of this duty, I would call your attention particularly to the necessity of great accuracy in the bearings of the different islands, shoals, and reefs, from each other, the latitude and longitude of the different points, and their distance from each other.

The chart that accompanies this is extremely inaccurate, and is in fact but an apology for one. It is, however, though a poor guide for your labours, the best that exists at present, therefore all due caution is necessary in sailing over space that you have not already explored. I would recommend your constructing one from it on a larger scale, (roughly,) say one-fourth of an inch to a mile, and correcting it as you go on, at the same time constructing another on a similar scale for a fair copy.

On service of this kind, accidents are to be looked for: in case of your meeting with any, you will immediately take measures to give information, which will reach me at Ovolau, in the way you may think most advisable.

You will make magnetic observations at all places you can, and obtain all the information in your power, relative to the character of the natives, their actual state, and obtain all specimens of things you may meet with in the different departments of science, which must be carefully preserved. Do not omit to measure the heights of the different islands by triangulation, or with the sympiesometer, and obtain sketches of the natives, their dresses and implements.

Great confidence is felt in your successful accomplishment of this duty, and it is hoped that you will be favoured with fine weather. The coming moon will be of assistance in protecting you from accidents. It is very desirable that both sides of the reefs and islands should be examined at the same time; this you will be enabled to do with your boats. The winds are to be expected from the southeast to east, with fine weather; and in order to make the most of it, I should deem it advisable that you begin operations every day at daylight and work until dark. The sun's amplitude at rising and setting are the best bearings to begin and end with.

The error and rate of your chronometer (standard) are herewith enclosed. I need not tell you, that observations with the artificial horizon, when practicable, are to be preferred.