

On the third day, his messengers arrived at Apia, and brought word that the chiefs and people were determined that the murderer should not be given up or punished; that they defied the Papalangis and their power; and that, if Captain Hudson chose to come and take him, they would give him a fight. The messenger further stated, that they well knew he would be demanded according to their own regulations, but they would take care he should not be punished or given up, for they were prepared to resist any attempt that would be made. Many other insulting messages were received; among them, one from the murderer and his friends, that when "he could kill a few more white men, he would be given up."

Such were their threats and boasting: their conduct was conformable to them, as represented by our consul, the missionaries, and Mr. Cunningham, H. B. M. vice-consul. Captain Hudson now saw the necessity of taking some steps that would check this criminal and audacious spirit, and prove to the natives that we had the power to punish these aggressions on our citizens.

The attempt to take the chief was designed to bring them to terms, without any further difficulty; but not being successful, it was necessary to take some effectual measures for their punishment, particularly as the three towns had now united with their chiefs in setting our force at defiance. The missionaries also saw the necessity of doing something to insure the safety of those who may hereafter have communication with the natives, by renewing in their minds the fear of our power.

Notwithstanding the weather was so very unpropitious, the naturalists made excursions to the different parts of the island. They all describe the luxuriance of the vegetation as exceeding any thing they had before witnessed: the rich soil, combined with the heat and copious rains, rendered every spot fertile, and seemed to give new life to the vast variety of parasitic plants with which all the trees were covered, and which, in the groves, were so thick as to form masses impenetrable to the rays of the sun. A remarkable ficus was passed on this trip, of which Mr. Agate made a characteristic drawing, and which will give a good idea of their size and manner of growth: the road or path passes through its trunk. A number of other trees were remarkable: among them the "ife," a gigantic chestnut, with its projecting buttresses around the trunk. The woods were enlivened by many birds, and the air filled with their songs and chirpings.

At Siusinga, a devil's town, Messrs. Rich, Peale, and Agate, saw Seeovedi, better known as Joe Gimblet, the great priest of his creed. He lay on a mat by himself, no one speaking or going near him, and