

make uquerisu, he did not sin in her making of it; nor did the young men in the house sin in giving her any article. if she had the power to order it of them.

*Tuesday, 7th.*—Mr. Robb and I again called through the town, visiting here and there. Young Eyo said he was sitting letting things take their course, as he could do nothing. In the distant farms the people had stopped all intercourse with the town, and the evil-disposed were begun to prey upon their neighbours. He had heard that some one had seized a boy of his, and sold him into the Aukauyong tribe, and he feared the strong would take advantage of the time to steal and sell all whom they could overpower.

Mr. Thomson came in the afternoon, having performed the journey from Ikunetu on horseback—the first who has ever done so. In passing through the farms, on his way, he found terrible reports prevailing of the dreadful scenes of murder being enacted in the town, and every one trembling for his life.

*Thursday, 16th.*—Young Eyo came up this evening, and had a long talk about the cares and difficulties in which he is suddenly involved. He heartily wishes that there had been some one to step in and take his father's wealth, and his father's place, so as to relieve him of a burden he feels too heavy for him. Were he to do as others do, matters would be comparatively easy; but as a Christian man he finds himself in antagonism with the whole country. He is anxious to pay all the oil his father owed as soon as possible. It is happily not much, and there are more goods in the hands of the king's traders than would procure it all, but he fears he will get little from them. He reports that one head man on a large plantation on the Ikunetu river had destroyed himself.

*Great Meeting in Town.—Saturday, 18th.*—On Thursday evening Young Eyo mentioned that some people were threatening to come into the town and administer esere (the poison nut), to find out who killed the king. I thought it might be only talk; but this morning he came up in much perplexity, saying that a number of people from Ikpa had crossed over the country to the plantations behind the town, and joining, or rather calling out the people there, they were all coming into the town to administer the esere. He said that

Tom Eyo had advised that he and Young Eyo should go out and meet them, and prevail upon them, if possible not to come into the town. I thought this a very prudent measure, and advised him to go out with Thom on this errand; but he said he had resolved not to go. He had sympathized with them when in fear of their own lives, and done what he could to assure them of safety, but now when they sought the lives of others, he would have nothing to say to them. At the same time, he suspected that this was nothing more than a display of their strength, and that they would not carry out their threat. While he was yet speaking, a messenger came to him, to inform him that the people had begun to enter the town. The armed force poured in, every man with a gun on his shoulder and a cutlas by his side, and occupied the market-place; and, on their entering, a number of townspeople, parties in the blood covenant, took their arms and joined them. Mr Robb, Mr Timson, and I went down to watch proceedings. The head men whom we saw were trembling for their lives, and had got their retainers who were in the town sitting by them armed for defence, but they evidently felt themselves powerless.

The people from the plantations, to the number of five hundred, sat quietly in the market-place, expecting some of the chiefs of the town to come out to them and enquire their matter. At length Young Eyo sent a messenger to them, and, in the discussion which followed, it would appear that they were not united in their object. The leaders appear to have come in to discover the cause of the king's death, but a good many came to obtain security for their own lives, as they did not think the oath by mbian, formerly taken by the head men, sufficed, except for those who were then present. However, after some palavering, they all went quietly away, showing a moderation which, I am sure, would not have been exhibited by any other race of men.

*The King's Daughter urging the Chiefs to shed blood.—Wednesday, 22* John Eyo, to whom I read the translation of the New Testament in revisi- it, mentioned, when he came up for that purpose to-day, that Imyan daughter of the king, had been lame