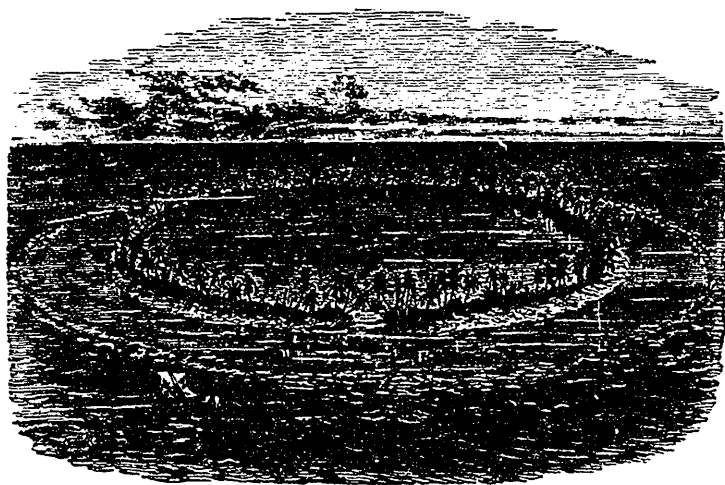


On another occasion, when King Tanoa, of Bau, was visited by the Mbtuni tribe bringing large offerings of spoil, Ngavindi, one of his head men, was sent out to capture enemies or friends for a cannibal feast. Some women were seen fishing. Fourteen were seized and brought to Bau. Mr. Calvert and Mr. Lyth, his associate at that time, were away. Mrs. Calvert and Mrs. Lyth started for the king's house. The sound of death drums and the firing of muskets told them that the butchery was going on. They rushed into the very presence of the king—where no woman was ever allowed to enter—and boldly made their request. Tanoa was stunned by their audacity, and ordered the murder to stop. Nine had already perished, but the remaining five were



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set at liberty. Nothing could exceed the consummate tact, the splendid discretion, and the unbounded labours, of these servants of God. But after all, it was not to these they owed either their safety or their success. It was God who sent these missionaries to Fiji. His protection was over them. His blessing was upon their work.

One great chief after another was converted, but the most remarkable of all was the conversion of Thakombaw, the most powerful monarch of Fiji. Captain Erskine, of H.M.S. *Havannah*, who visited Fiji in 1849, thus describes Thakombaw: "It was impossible not to admire the appearance of the chief. Of large, almost gigantic size, his limbs were beautifully formed and proportioned. His countenance with far less of the negro cast than among the lower orders, agreeable and intelligent; while his