

STEVENSON'S SHRINE

Our steamer left Nukualofa that evening, and we took on board a number of natives bound for Samoa. The entire population of the island seemed to have gathered together in a picturesque group on the shore to bid them farewell ; and this group formed a brilliant foreground to our parting view of Tonga, with its green esplanade, its villa palace, its church and its white Government Offices, the latter of which stood boldly out against the groves of bananas and long feathery vistas of coconut palms.¹

We steamed out of the harbour of Nukualofa by a different passage to

¹ His Majesty King George of Tonga being in residence, the villa palace was inaccessible to visitors.