

The king of Bumbireh, having obstructed with violence and bloodshed the passage of the Expedition, Stanley seized him as a hostage. He goes on in his narrative as follows :—

My purpose in possessing myself of the person of the king and his two chiefs may easily be divined. It must have been perceived that over-gentleness and want of firmness had proved harmful on several previous occasions. A hundred times afterwards did I see that the savage only respects force, power, bold-



WARRIOR OF UKEREWE—WITH ARMLETS AND ANKLETS.

ness, and decision ; and that he is totally ignorant of the principles which govern the conduct of Christian man to man. Forbearance is to him cowardice ; mildness, patience, and an equable temper are, in his undeveloped and unreasoning mind, only evidences of effeminacy. But the exercise of power without magnanimity is simply brutality, and has only a transient effect. If, therefore, I could only show the king of Bumbireh and his people that the first white man that they had seen was extremely gentle in his manner until aroused, but, though

strong and powerful when angered, was magnanimous afterwards, I should, I felt, leave a lasting good effect on their minds.

Those were days which required caution, for the first false or weak step would have ensured the destruction of the Expedition, the members of which I was bound by every principle of honour to protect and defend to the best of my ability. They had pledged themselves to me only upon the condition that I should secure their safety, and they looked to me to watch and guard their lives with paternal care. In my opinion, considering all