

obtain it again. But all this proving fruitless, Mr. Banks, accompanied by Mr. Green and some other gentlemen, set out for the woods, where they thought they might probably get some tidings of what was stolen. In their way, they met with Tubourai Tamaide and some of the natives. This chief was made to understand by signs, that they had lost the quadrant, and that as some of his countrymen must have taken it, they insisted upon being shewn the place where it was concealed. Having proceeded a few miles together, after some enquiry, Tubourai Tamaide was informed who the thief was, and it was found that he was then at a place about four miles distant. As they had no arms but a brace of pistols, not caring to trust themselves so far from the fort, a message was dispatched to Capt. Cook, requesting him to send out a party to support them. The captain accordingly set out with a party properly armed, after having laid an embargo upon all the canoes in the bay.

In the mean time, Mr. Banks and Mr. Green proceeded on their way, and at the place which had been mentioned, were met by one of Tubourai Tamaide's own people, bringing with him part of the quadrant, the case and the other parts of the instrument were recovered soon afterwards, when it was found that it had received no real injury, though it had been taken to pieces.

When they returned in the evening, they were much surprised to find Toorahah under confinement in the fort, while a crowd of the natives surrounded the gate, discovering marks of the greatest anxiety for the fate of their chief. The occasion of his detention originated from the conduct of the Indians: alarmed at Capt. Cook's having gone up the country with an armed party, most of the natives left the fort that evening, and one of the canoes attempted to quit the bay. The lieutenant who commanded on board the ship, having it in charge not to suffer any canoe to depart, sent a boat to detain her, but the no sooner approached, than the Indians jumped into the sea. Toorahah being of the number, was taken up, and sent by the lieutenant to the officer that commanded at the fort, who concluded he should do right to detain him prisoner, while the poor chief thought of nothing but being put to death, till Capt. Cook caused him to be returned, to the great joy of his countrymen. But the natives were still inclined to bear this affair in their minds, and as a proof of it, they neglected to supply the market with provisions. Mr. Banks walking into the woods, heard great murmurings concerning the treatment of Toorahah, who, as they said, had been ill used and beaten, though Mr. Banks declared he was quite ignorant of his having received such treatment.

The chief now sent for such hogs to be restored as he had left behind him, at first intending them as a present, which by this time, perhaps, he did not think the English had merited; but they refused to send them unless he would come himself, thinking by an interview to promote a reconciliation; and this they were the more desirous of, as they were told it would be a fortnight before he would pay them a visit.

On the 3d provisions were extremely scarce, as the markets continued to be ill supplied on the account already mentioned; and it was not without some difficulty, that Mr. Banks got a few baskets of bread-fruit from Tubourai Tamaide. Toorahah on the 4th sent for an axe and a shirt in return for the hogs, which were accordingly promised to be brought him the next day. He sent again early in the morning of the 5th, and Mr. Banks and the Doctor set out in the pinnace, taking with them one of Toorahah's people and soon reached Iparre, where he resided, which was a few miles to the westward. When they arrived there, they found a great number of the natives waiting for them on the shore, and were conducted directly to the chief, the people notwithstanding the offence they had so lately taken, shouting out in their language, "Toorahah is your friend." He was sitting under a tree, and some old men were standing about him. Having made signs for them to be seated, he asked for the axe,

which was then given him by Capt. Cook, as also the shirt that he had demanded, and a broad-cloth garment, which latter he put on, and was well pleased with the present. They ate a mouthful together in the boat, and were afterwards conducted to a large court-yard on one side of the chief's house, where they were to be entertained with wrestling after the manner of the country. He himself sat at the upper end of the area, having several of his principal men on each side of him, who appeared as judges of the sport, which was as follows:

"Ten or twelve combatants entered the area, and after many simple ceremonies of challenging, they engaged, and each endeavoured to throw his antagonist by mere strength: thus they seized each other by the hand, or other parts of the body, grappling, without the least art, till one, by having a greater hold, or stronger muscular force, threw his antagonist on his back. The conquest was applauded by the old men with a few words repeated in a kind of tune, and with three huzzas. After one engagement another succeeded; but if the combatants could not throw each other in the space of a minute, they parted, either by consent, or the intervention of their friends. Several women of rank in the country were present, but it was thought they only attended this amusement in compliance to the English gentlemen. A man with a stick, who made way for us when we landed, officiated as master of the ceremonies, keeping order among the people, and those of them who pressed forward he struck with his stick very finarily. During these athletic sports, another party of men performed a dance, for the space of a minute, but neither of these parties took the least notice of each other, their attention being wholly fixed on their own endeavours to please and conquer. At the conclusion of this entertainment, not unlike the wrestling-matches of remote antiquity, we were told, that some hogs, and a large quantity of bread fruit were preparing for our dinner, very agreeable intelligence to those whose appetites were sharpened by their journey; but our host, instead of setting his two hogs before us, ordered one of them to be carried into our boat. Here we thought to have enjoyed our good cheer, and yet we neither dined on shore, nor in the boat, but at the desire of Tubourai Tamaide, proceeded as far as the ship: no small mortification this, as we had to row four miles, while our dinner was growing cold; however, we were at last gratified with our promised repast, of which our chief and his friends had a liberal share. This friendly reconciliation between them and us, operated on the natives like a charm: for it was no sooner known that Tubourai Tamaide was on board, than provisions of all kinds were brought to the fort in great plenty.

On the 8th, early in the morning, Mr. Molineux, the Master, and Mr. Green set out in the pinnace to the eastward, in order to procure some poultry, or hogs. They saw many of the latter, and one turtle, yet could not purchase either, because they belonged to Toorahah, and without his permission, the people could not be prevailed upon to sell them. Hence we concluded that Toorahah was indeed a prince; and we afterwards learnt, that, in this part of the island, he acted as regent for a minor, whom we never saw all the time of our stay here. However, some time afterwards, having produced some nails to barter for provisions, we obtained near twenty cocoa-nuts, and some bread fruit, for one of the smallest size, so that we *can now procure* of these articles, though no hogs. In this excursion Mr. Green imagined he had discovered a tree sixty yards in circumference; but, on his return, he was informed by our two gentlemen, that it was a species of the fig, whose branches lying down to the earth take fresh root, and thus for a mass of trunks, which being all united by a common vegetation, might easily be mistaken for one trunk or body.

On the 9th in the forenoon, Oberoa, paid us a visit, accompanied by her spouse Obadee, presenting us with a hog, and some bread-fruit. This was the first visit we had received from this lady, since the loss of our