

Mr. Wilson was an excellent interpreter, and by his aid I had a long and agreeable talk with the old chief, who, when his wars were touched upon, appeared full of fire and animation.

I intimated my desire to have a conference with the ruling chiefs, for the purpose of transacting business, whereupon he readily assented to call a fono, and appointed the 4th of November as the earliest day on which he could possibly get the chiefs, a part of whom must come from Savaii, together. This day he named himself, after having made a reckoning of the six intervening days upon his fingers; I observed, however, that he found it necessary to repeat the count several times. Having transacted this business with him, and regaled ourselves on his hospitable fare, we took our leave.

On reaching the Peacock, I found that none of her surveying parties had returned, and the Flying-Fish was still missing; I thus became satisfied that I should be detained here for several days. I therefore sent orders for the Vincennes to make for the harbour, where she anchored in the afternoon near the Peacock.

The next day, parties were despatched in various directions, so as to bring all parts of the island under examination at the same time.

One of these excursions was made across the island. On arriving at the highest point of the ridge, between Siuma and Siusinga, which has an elevation of two thousand and fifty feet, and just before the descent began, a clearing was found, in which were two mounds of earth, each about fifteen feet high, and one hundred and twenty feet in circumference; several stone walls were also seen. In respect to these, there is a tradition that they were built by the warriors of Vavao, who invaded Upolu, and after their predatory warfare along the coast was over, occupied this commanding position for the purpose of cutting off the communication between the opposite sides of the island. The trees growing on these mounds are nearly two feet in diameter, and the missionaries have inferred from their inquiries that the invasion referred to occurred seventy or eighty years ago.

Messrs. Dana and Couthouy visited a lake called Lauto, which lies to the westward of this pass, and in the centre of an extinct crater. The edge of the crater was found to be two thousand five hundred and seventy feet above the sea, and the descent thence to the water of the lake is one hundred and twenty feet. These gentlemen succeeded in obtaining a line of soundings across the lake, by cutting down trees, and forming a raft of them. They found the depth in the