

THE ADVERTISER.

COLUMBIA UNITED, THE LAND OF FREEDOM, THE CLIME OF PEACE AND THE GRAVE OF TYRANTS.

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BY

MARTIN & PATTEN.

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AGENCY.

Montgomery County—John Campbell

FROM THE ANALYTIC MAGAZINE.

Porter's Journal.

(CONTINUED FROM NO. 22.)

I had seen several of their warriors since I had arrived, many of them highly ornamented with plumes formed of the feathers of Caches, and man of war birds; large tufts of hair were tied around their waists, ankles, and loins; a cloak sometimes of red cloth, but most frequently of a white paper cloth, formed of the bark of a tree, thrown, not elegantly, over the shoulders, with large round or oval ornaments in their ears, formed of whales' teeth, ivory, or a kind of soft and light wood whitened with chalk. From their neck is suspended a whale's tooth or highly polished shell, and around their loins several turns of the stronger kind of paper cloth, the end of which hangs before in the manner of an apron. This with a highly polished spear of about 12 feet in length, or a club richly capped and borne on the shoulders, constitutes the dress and equipment of a native warrior, whose body is highly and elegantly ornamented by tattooing, executed in a manner to excite our admiration. This is a faithful picture of a warrior; and of the chief of such warriors I formed an exalted opinion; but what was my astonishment when Gattaneuah presented himself. An infirm old man of 70 years of age, destitute of every covering or ornament, except a piece of linen about his loins, and a palm leaf tied about his head; a long stick served to assist him in walking; his face and body were as black as a negro's, from the quantity of tattooing which entirely covered him. His skin was rough, and appeared to be peeling off in scales from the quantity of kava, an intoxicating root with which he had indulged himself; such was the figure that Gattaneuah presented; and as he drank freely of the kava before he made his visit, he appeared to be perfectly stupid. After he had been a short time on deck, I endeavored to impress him with a high opinion of our force; and for this purpose assembled all my crew—it scarcely seemed to excite his attention. I then caused a gun to be fired, which seemed to produce no other effect than that of pain; he then complained that it hurt his ears; I then invited him below, when nothing whatever excited his attention, until I shewed him some whales' teeth. This roused the old man from his lethargy, and he would not be satisfied until I had permitted him to handle, to measure, and count them over and over, which seemed to afford him infinite pleasure; and after he had done this repeatedly, I put them away, and shortly afterwards asked him if he had seen anything in the ship that pleased him; if he did, to name it, and it should be his; he told me he had seen nothing that pleased him so much as one of the small wales' teeth, which on his describing, I took out and gave him; this he carefully wrapt up, begging me not to inform any person that he had about him an article of so much value; I assured him I should not; and the old man threw himself on the settee and went to sleep; in a few minutes he awoke somewhat recovered from his stupidity; and requested to be put on shore; he, however, previous to his departure, wished me to exchange names with him, and requested me to assist him in his war with the Happs; to the first I immediately consented, but to the latter request I told him I had come to be at peace with all the Island; that I wished to see him at peace with the Happs, and that I should not engage in any hostilities unless the Happs came into the valley, in which case I should protect him and his people. He told me they had cursed the bones of his mother, who had died but a short time since; that as we had now exchanged names, she was now my mother, and I was

bound to espouse her cause. I said I would think on the subject, and did not deem it necessary to make any further reply to the old man's sophistry.

Next morning he sent me a present consisting of hogs, and several boat loads of cocoa nuts and plantains, which were distributed among the crews of the different vessels.

I now unbent my sails and sent them on shore, landed my water casks, with which I formed a complete enclosure, sufficiently to answer our purposes. The ship was hauled close within the beach, and we began in good earnest to make our repairs. A tent was pitched in the enclosure, and the place put under the protection of a guard of marines. In the afternoon several officers went on shore to visit the villages, when I perceived a large body of the Happs descending from the mountains into the valley, among the bread fruit trees, which they soon began to destroy. I immediately fired guns, and made a signal for every person to repair on board, apprehensive that some might be cut off by them, as the friendly natives had not seemed to notice this descent. The firing of the guns soon occasioned the main body to halt, and shortly afterwards the whole returned up the mountains, as the friendly tribes had turned out to oppose them. Those who were on shore had returned on board, and as the Happs had descended to within half a mile of our camp, and had succeeded in destroying 200 bread fruit trees, it became necessary to be more on our guard against their enterprise. My messenger shortly afterwards returned from among them to say, that notwithstanding my injunctions, they had come into the valley and destroyed the bread fruit trees and we had not opposed them, that they believed we were cowards, and they should soon visit our camp and carry off our sails. Believing from what I had really seen, that they were capable of attempting the execution of their threat, I determined to be prepared for them, and with this view I caused one fourth of each ship's company to be landed every evening with their arms, as a guard for the camp, allowing them at the same time, to stroll about the valley. The natives had now assembled in great numbers on the outside of the enclosure. They were fond of presents, which they called a Tiche, and which at first consisted of pieces of an iron hoop, but in a few days this coin became no longer current; then the iron hoops were fashioned by the seamen into a tool somewhat in the form of a plane iron, which being lashed by several close turns of sonnet on a crooked stick, is used by the natives as a short handled adze, and is called by them a Tabay. This passed very well for a few days, but they soon found out the cheat, and required something of more value; our men had money, which was offered them, but was rejected as trash; clothing they had given until they had scarcely any left for themselves; junk bottles were in great demand and always passed current.

I had caused a tent to be erected on shore for myself, as believing my presence necessary there to preserve order, and my health required that I should remain on shore some time, after being so long confined to the ship.

The threat of the Happs had somewhat provoked me. I did not view this people as mere savages, but as intelligent beings, having proper ideas of right and wrong; I thought however before I went to extremities, I would try if I could not frighten them out of their hostile notions. Gattaneuah made daily applications for assistance, and I at length told him if his people would carry a heavy gun, a six pounder, up to the top of a mountain which I pointed out to him, I would send men to work it and drive away the Happs, who still kept possession of the hills; this was unanimously agreed to by every male inhabitant of the valley; I landed the gun—but did not suppose them capable of carrying it half way to the place fixed on; I supposed however it would terrify the Happs, and if it was attended with no other advantage, it would occupy the natives for a week or fortnight and keep them from our camp, as the numbers who resorted there had already caused us some embarrassment, and I apprehended would cause us more.

On the gun being landed, I caused a few shot to be fired, to convince them of the distance the balls would have effect: first, a shot was fired with the gun considerably elevated; they seemed much surprised at the length of time it remained in the air, and many had given up all expectation of seeing it fall, and a general shout of admiration marked the time of its falling in the water. I now directed the gun to be fired that the ball might skip along the surface of the water, and at every bound of the shot they

gave a general shout of applause, as if all were operated upon by the same impulse: and last of all, I directed her to be fired with grape shot, which seemed to afford them more pleasure than all the rest: they hugged and kissed the gun, laid themselves beside it, and fondled it with the utmost delight and at length slung it on two poles, and carried it toward the mountains. On their first attempt to lift it with a few men the weight seemed to astonish them; they declared that it stuck to the ground; they soon, however, raised it by additional numbers, and bore it off with apparent ease.

While the natives were employed with their darling gun, I occupied myself in forwarding as much as possible the ship's duty, and, as an additional security to our camp, landed another six pounder, and mounted also a long wall piece.

Our men were employed overhauling and refitting the rigging, and the duty of every one related to them. No work was exacted from any one after 4 o'clock in the afternoon; the rest of the day was given up to repose and amusement.

An oven was also built on shore, with brick found on board the prizes, and so long as we remained here, fresh bread, of an excellent quality, was made every day to every person under my command.

The day after the gun was moved for the mountain, the chief warrior, named Mauina, was introduced to me; he was a tall and well shaped man, of about 35 years of age, remarkably active, of an intelligent and open countenance, and his whole appearance was prepossessing. He had just left the other warriors in the fortified village and had come down to request me to cause a musket to be fired, (which he called a baubie,) that he might witness its effects. Several individuals of the tribe of the Happs were at that moment about the camp, and I was pleased with the opportunity which was afforded me to convince them of the folly of resisting our fire arms with slings and spears. I fired several times at a mark myself, to show them that I never failed of hitting an object the size of a man. I then directed the marines to fire by volleys at a cask, which was soon like a riddle; I directed them to tell their countrymen that it would only be making a useless sacrifice of their lives to fight us; that I had no wish to destroy them, but that my own safety, and the security of the friendly tribes, whom I had promised to protect, required that they should be driven from the mountains overhanging the valley, where they had constantly kept their position, daily waving their cloaks to us to come up, and threatening us with their spears and clubs. Indeed, considerable numbers of them had been seen in the grass on the hill, at the back of our encampment, and I had much reason to apprehend an attack from them soon, if means were not taken to dislodge them.

Murina appeared very much pleased with the effect of our musketry, and frequently exclaimed, "Mattee! Mattee! Thelled! Thelled! The Happs however, replied, that nothing could persuade their tribe that baubies could do them the injury we pretended; that they were determined to try the effects of a battle, and if they should be beaten, they would be willing to make peace, but not before. I informed them they would not find me so ready to make peace after beating them as at present, and that I should insist on being paid for the trouble they might put me to. They informed me that they had an abundance of fruit and hogs, and would be willing to sacrifice the whole to purchase my friendship if I should conquer them. Seeing that these strange people were resolutely bent on trying the effect of their arms against ours, I thought that the sooner they were convinced of their folly the better it would be for themselves and us, as it would relieve us from the constant apprehension of an attack from them, and I believed it likely that by giving them timely notice of our intentions, they would avoid coming so near as to permit our muskets to have much effect. Indeed, it became absolutely necessary to do something, for the Happs present informed me that their tribe believed that we were afraid to attack them; as we had threatened so much without attempting anything, and this idea I found began to prevail among those of our valley. The valley is subdivided into other valleys by the hills, and each small valley is inhabited by distinct tribes, governed by their own laws, and having their own chiefs & priests.

On the 28th of October, Gattaneuah, with several of the warriors, came to inform me that the gun was at the foot of the mountain, where I had directed it to be carried, and that it would have reached the summit by the time our people could get up there. When I viewed the mountain, and imagined the difficulties they would have to surmount, I could scarcely credit the account they gave me, and yet I could not conceive any motive they could have for deceiving me. I informed them that on the next morning at daylight, 40 men, with their muskets, would be on shore, and in readiness to march, and as I supposed it would be impossible for our people to scale the mountains when encumbered with their arms, I desired them to send me 40 Indians, for the purpose of carrying their muskets, and an equal number to carry provisions, as well as ammunition for the six pounder, which they promised me should be done, and every arrangement was made accordingly, and the command of the expedition was given to Lieutenant Downes. I was this afternoon visited by Taihea-taena, the wife of Gattaneuah, accompanied by several of her daughters, and granddaughters. Every object about the camp seemed to excite in them the most lively attentions, but none more so than the sheep and goats, which they called boarks, which is the name of a hog. The different occupations in which our people were employed seemed greatly to excite their astonishment, and they went from place to place, examining with great curiosity the operations in the camp; but as they were all entirely new to them, they appeared to view them with admiration, and as if sensible of not being able fully to comprehend them, they made no enquiries, but silently turned their attention to the next object which attracted them. In this manner they wandered from my tent to the sail-makers', the coopers', carpenters', armourers', and bakers', and even the turning of the grindstone occasioned no less wonder than the rest; they were like children, pleased with novelties which they could not comprehend. Taihea appeared to be an intelligent, and had no doubt been a handsome woman; she bore the traces of beauty in her features, and the beauty of her children and grandchildren, whose features strongly resembled hers, left no doubt in my mind as to what she had been; her manners were dignified and her gestures graceful. I found she possessed that vanity which is so much attributed to her sex, and that she evinced no little pleasure at being complimented on the strong resemblance of her granddaughters to herself. I made them presents of several small articles, which gave them much pleasure, and the old woman frequently reminded me, that as I had exchanged names with Gattaneuah, I was now her husband, and (pointing to the others) that these were my children and grandchildren, who looked up to me for protection.

On the morning of the 29th the party being on shore, consisting chiefly of the crew of the Essex Junior, and the detachment of marines, each man being furnished with an Indian to carry his arms, and spare Indians to carry provisions and other articles, I gave the order to march; Gattaneuah arrived at the moment of my giving the order, and informed me that his daughter, who was married to a chief of the Happs, had just descended the mountains, and had come as an envoy to beg that I would grant them peace; the detachment had marched; every arrangement had been made; I apprehended that the Happs only wanted to gain time; I had met with considerable provocation from them, & they still kept their hostile positions on the mountains. From the old man's solicitude for peace, when contrasted with their former desires for war, I for a moment believed some treachery on foot. I had sent but a handful of men; and their arms, their ammunition, their provisions, and even their lives, were in the hands of the Indians. Gattaneuah was in my power, and I determined to secure him as a hostage until their return. I directed him to send for his daughter for the same purpose, but he informed me she was far advanced in pregnancy, and unable to come to the camp. I told him that no harm was intended him but that he must not leave the enclosure until the return of the party; that the Indians of his tribes were in possession of many articles of value to us, and that when every thing was returned to us, should be at liberty to proceed to his family. I told him that peace could not now take place until after a battle, when I should feel disposed to come to terms with the Happs, and would respect a messenger sent from them with a white flag. The old man appeared very uneasy at his detention, and repeatedly asked me if I would not kill him should any of

our people be injured by the Happs. And my assurances to the contrary did not relieve his anxiety and fears for his safety. The party on shore at the camp now consisted only of about ten or twelve working men; and one sentinel; they were all engaged in their usual occupations, when an Indian girl, who had been wandering in the bushes, running towards us, the picture of fear, and with terror strongly marked in every feature, exclaimed that the Happs were but a short distance from our camp. I directed an alarm gun to be fired; every person was immediately armed with such weapons as presented themselves, and we awaited the expected attack behind our barrier of water-casks; but hearing no noise, we called out to examine the bushes, and supposed it a false alarm; but on returning to the camp, casting our eyes upon the hills, we perceived a party skulking among the weeds and grass; we got the six pounder to bear on them, soon dislodged them, and had no other interruption or alarm during the day.

About 11 o'clock we perceived that our people had gained the mountains, and were driving the Happs from height to height, who fought as they retreated, and daring our men to follow them, with threatening gesticulations. A native, who bore the American flag, waved it in triumph as he skipped along the mountains. They were attended by a large concourse of friendly natives, armed as usual, who generally kept in the rear of our men. Mauina alone was seen in the advance of the whole, and was well known by his scarlet cloak and waving plumes; in about an hour we lost sight of the combatants, and saw no more of them until about 4 o'clock, when they were discovered descending the mountains on their return, the natives bearing five dead bodies slung on poles. Mr. Downes and his men soon afterwards arrived at their camp, overcome with the fatigue of an exercise to which they had been so little accustomed. He informed me that on his arrival near the tops of the mountains, the Happs, stationed on the summit, had assailed him and his men with spears; that he had driven them from place to place until they had taken refuge in a fortress erected in the manner described, on the brow of a steep hill; here they all made a stand, the number of between three and four thousand; they dared our people to ascend this hill, at the foot of which they had made a halt to take breath, when the word was given by Mr. Downes to rush up the hill; at that instant a stone struck him in the belly, and laid him breathless on the ground, and at the same time one of our people was pierced with a spear through his neck. This occasioned a halt, and they were about abandoning any further attempt on the place, but Mr. Downes soon recovered, and finding himself able to walk, gave orders for a charge. Hitherto our party had done nothing, not one of the enemy had to their knowledge been wounded; they scoffed at our men, exposed to them their posteriors, and treated them with the utmost contempt and derision. Our friendly natives also began to think we were not so formidable as we pretended; it became, therefore, absolutely necessary that the fort should be taken at all hazards. Our people gave three cheers and rushed on through a shower of stones and spears, which the natives threw from behind their strong barrier, and it was not until our people entered the fort that they thought of retreating; five were at this instant shot dead, and one in particular fought until the muzzle of the gun was presented to his forehead, when the top of his head was entirely blown off. As soon as this place was taken, all further resistance was at an end; the friendly natives collected the dead, while many ran down in a village situated in the valley for the purpose of securing the plunder, large quantities of which, consisting of drums, mats, calabashes, and other household utensils; as well as hogs, cocoa nuts, and other fruits; they also brought with them large quantities of the plant with which they make their finest cloth, which grows nearly as large as the wrist, and is highly esteemed by them. They came also laden with plunder, which the enemy had not time to remove; for they could not be made to believe that a handful of men could drive them. It was shocking to see the manner they treated such as were knocked over with a shot; they rushed on them with their war clubs, and soon despatched them; then each seemed anxious to dip his spear in his blood, which nothing whatever could induce him to wipe off; the spear from that time bore the name of the dead warrior, and its value, in consequence of that trophy, was greatly enhanced.

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