

Then I attended to the investigation regarding the cows.

Judge Firrai to the Chiefs of Faleula.] Do any of you know who killed that cow?

Answer of Chiefs.] We have no idea who did it.

Judge Firrai.] Is there no one who has heard any report about it, or who can give any evidence on the subject.

Answer of Chiefs.] There are none.

Judge Firrai.] Very well, if anyone confesses afterwards when you are put upon your oath, I pity that individual, for he will be very severely punished. It is better to confess now before you are put on your oath.

Judge Firrai.] Have you any evidence on the subject?

Answer.] The following is the evidence of Tupai, which he repeated to me, viz.:—That he saw Tamaeliu chasing the cows into the bush. Then the wife of Atmosa went back with Tupai, and drove back the cows near the seaside; then the cow was led to the house, and it was extremely weak, and blood was flowing from its mouth and nostrils.

Judge Firrai.] Did you not strike the animal, or stone it?

Tamaeliu.] Not at all, only chased it gently.

Judge Firrai.] Are you sure you did not stone it?

Answer.] It is true I did stone it.

Judge Firrai.] It was probably you who caused the death of the animal.

Answer.] I am sure I do not know.

Judge Firrai (to the Faleula Chiefs).] What is your opinion on this matter? I think the animal died through the doings of Tamaeliu.

Then all the chiefs of Faleula replied: It is our opinion that it was on account of what Tamaeliu did that the animal died.

Judge Firrai (to Tamaeliu).] It appears indeed to have been you who caused the death of the animal.

Answer.] Quite true; it was probably what I did that caused its death.

The following are the names of the chiefs of Faleula who were present:—In Mr. Cornwall's employ, Atmosa, Timoteo, Loan, Saialu, Mala, Vae, and twenty-seven others.

No. 3.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY to Messrs. McARTHUR and Co.

GENTLEMEN,—

Colonial Secretary's Office, Wellington, 13th June, 1879.

I have the honor to forward herewith three copies of a despatch, and enclosures, received by His Excellency the Governor from Her Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, relative to alleged cruelties to Polynesian labourers at the Navigators Islands.

This despatch is transmitted for your serious consideration, as it appears that the estate on which these cruelties have been practised is worked by an agent of your firm.

I have, &c.,

Messrs. W. McArthur and Co., Auckland.

G. S. WHITMORE.

No. 4.

Messrs. McARTHUR and Co. to the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DEAR SIR,—

Queen Street, Auckland, 20th June, 1879.

I have the honor to acknowledge the letter No. 850, and its enclosures, consisting of a despatch from Sir Michael Hicks Beach relative to outrages in Samoa on the estate of one Cornwall, and perpetrated by Moors, as it would appear.

As the enclosed copy of a letter to His Excellency Sir Hercules Robinson will show you, we have given it our serious consideration about a year since; but that the despatch of Sir Michael Hicks Beach is founded in error in regard to our relations in business towards Mr. Cornwall the letter of mine will show.

I am sending copies of my letters to His Excellency and to yourself by the next mail, for the perusal of Alderman McArthur, M.P., the senior partner in our Auckland firm.

Trusting this will satisfy your wishes,

I have, &c.,

FREDK. LARKINS,

Resident partner of W. McArthur and Co., Auckland.

The Hon. G. S. Whitmore, Wellington.

Enclosure.

To His Excellency Sir HERCULES ROBINSON, Governor of New Zealand, G.C.M.G.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

The accompanying despatch, &c., reached me to-day, being myself resident partner in the firm of William McArthur and Co., of this City of Auckland.