

wreck. this fine vessel, with a valuable cargo on board, lay helpless on the beach, and the crew and passengers expected nothing less than plunder and destruction. the natives from the interior, hearing of the circumstance, hastened down in vast numbers to participate in the general pillage. but king george summoned all his warriors to his aid, and with this party placed himself between the wreck and those who came to plunder it. i was informed by several who were present at the time, that, after declaring that not an article should be taken till himself and all his party were destroyed, he advanced, and thus explained his reasons for protecting the strangers and their property: you said king george come from the interior; all of you think only of what you can get, without considering the consequences, which, indeed, are of little import to you, living, as you do, out of reach of the reproaches and vengeance of the white men. but look how differently i am situated. i live on the beach; this bay is my residence; i invite the white men to come and trade here under the promise of my protection; they come; several years of profitable trading have passed between us. king george, they say, is a good man; now an accident has befallen one of their ships in my territory, what must king george do why, he must assist them; which he will do, and defend them against everyone who shall attempt to injure them. in consequence of this speech, and his exertions, not a thing was taken from the wreck by the savages who had collected for that purpose. footnotes: footnote: the chief referred to by mr. earle as shulitea, or king george, was a noted bay of islands chief named whareumu. he was killed in a fight with the minded to search your house, and if i find my undutiful wife and your son within its walls, i will carry them and you before the judge, and sue for my rights. you will seek in vain, replied petrus, commanding himself with difficulty. my word is yea or nay, and i repeat once more no, we harbor neither her nor him. as for dorothea and myself neither of us is inclined to interfere in your concerns, but neither will we permit another be he whom he may to interfere in ours. this threshold shall never be crossed by any but those to whom i grant permission, or by the emperors judge, to whom i must yield. you, i forbid to enter. sirona is not here, and you would do better to seek her elsewhere than to fritter away your time here. i do not require your advice cried the centurion wrathfully. and i, retorted petrus, do not feel myself called upon to arrange your matrimonial difficulties. besides you can get back sirona without our help, for it is always more difficult to keep a wife safe in the house, than to fetch her back when she has run away. you shall learn whom you have to deal with threatened the centurion, and he threw a glance round at the slaves, who had collected in the court, and who had been joined by the senators eldest son. i shall call my people together at once, and if you have the seducer among you we will intercept his escape. only wait an hour, said dorothea, now taking up the word, while she gently touched her husbands hand, for his self control was almost exhausted, i and you will cogency of a real judge, and i image that the standard of the merrymouth may be more advanced than in some other places. i dont think and he looked sarcastically at westray i do not think we need carry this inquiry farther. we have a man who drinks, not an habitual drunkard, mr ennefer says, but one who drinks enough to bring himself into a thoroughly diseased state. this man sits fuddling in a low public house all the evening, and is so far overtaken by liquor when he goes away, that he leaves his overcoat behind him. he actually leaves his coat behind him, though we have it that it was a pouring wet night. he goes to the organ loft in a tipsy state, slips as he is getting on to his stool, falls heavily with the back of his head on a piece of wood, and is found dead some hours later by an unimpeachable and careful witness and he gave a little sniff with his head still on this piece of wood. take note of that when he was found his head was still on this very pedal which had caused the fatal injury. gentlemen, i do not think we need any further evidence; i think your course is pretty clear. all was, indeed, very clear. the jury with a unanimous verdict of accidental death put the colophon to the sad history of mr sharnall, and ruled that the same failing which had blighted his life, had brought him at last to a drunkards end. westray walked back to the hand of god with the forlorn old top coat over his arm. the coroner had formally handed it over to him. he was evidently a close friend of the