



PERSONAL JOURNAL
as Surgeon of the
USS Vincennes and Peacock
1838 - 1841

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JOHN S. WHITTLE

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2 vols.

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N O T E S

- (1) John S. Whittle, U.S. Naval Surgeon, was the brother of William Whittle, of the Confederate cruiser 'Shenandoah'.
- (2) He was Assistant Surgeon on the USS Vincennes (Flagship of the U.S. Exploring Expedition) until the end of 1840, when he was transferred to the USS Porpoise (a brig).
- (3) He was 28 years old in 1840.
- (4) The portions of the Journal copied from the microfilm and attached are in four Parts -
 - (i) Part I: August 26, 1840 - August 31, 1840, covering visits to Hull, Birnie and Enderbury Islands in the Phoenix Group by the USS Vincennes. There is a gap in the Journal between March 31, 1840, and August 25, 1840, during which period the Vincennes sighted Gardner and McKean Islands.
 - (ii) Part II: December 5, 1840 - February 4, 1841, covering visits to Washington and Jarvis Islands in the Line Group, Enderbury, Birnie and Hull in the Phoenix Group, and Atafu, Nukunono, Fakaofu and Olosenga in the Tokelau Group by the USS Peacock.
 - (iii) Part III: March 6, 1841 - March 26, 1841, covering visits to Funafuti, Nukufetau, Vaitupu, Nanumanga and Nanumea Islands in the Ellice Group by the USS Peacock.
 - (iv) Part IV: April 3, 1841 - May 2, 1841, covering visits to the Gilbert Islands, from Little Makin to Tabituea, by the USS Peacock.
- (5) There is a daguerrotype portrait of Whittle at the end of the microfilm.

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To the Reader (if there should be one).

"If any person comes into my private room and finds me not in full costume, what right has he to criticise my dress?"

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PART I

August 26th 1840. This morning made an Island which proved to be Sydney. It is about 12 miles in extent and is just like those we have seen in the low Archipelago. It has a large Lagoon. Cocoanuts are very scarce there, there being only a few young trees on the Island. We found there a party of Tahitians and a frenchman. These were left some months by a French trading schooner to take Turtle. Three of the Tahitians swam thro the surf to the boat and came on ~~the~~ board the ship. They told us their party consisted of eleven. The Frenchman is mate of the Schooner and has charge of the fishing party. They are nearly out of provisions and have been obliged to eke out their stock by eating Birds, Birds eggs and Fish. There is only one place on the Island where they obtain water, a small hole, probably filled with sea water which by the time it reaches the reservoir is purified by being drained thro the ~~sand~~ sand. They say they have taken 80 turtle which at the rate of \$15 apiece, and they are worth more, come to \$1200, quite a snug sum. But what a miderable life these people must lead! What can induce people to engage in such an employment. It is not wealth surely, for none but the Capt. and mates gain anything but a living. However there must be men for all things.

August 27th 1840. We still continue to vibrate between calms and very light ~~clouds~~ winds, and make little way on one course. We are now steering S.E. in search of some ~~Islands~~ Islands or other about which there is some doubt some way. Confound these Islands, I wish they were in the other hemisphere so that we could pursue

our way towards our letters without interruption.

August 28th 1840. About 10 a.m. today made the Island which we left the day before yesterday. The circumstance of our being so far to the Sd is owing to the strong currents which prevail here. There are still several Islands to examine before we reach the Sandwich group.

August 29th 1840.

Had a fine wind all night last night which would have enabled us to steer our course, but we lay to on account of some Islands. About daylight this morning passed one without stopping and about 10 a.m. made another and surveyed it with the boats. But the strange thing is that as soon as we had finished this one, we put the ship about and stood back for the one we passed this morning, which was now 30 or 35 miles off. This Capt. of ours is either cracked or something else. He displays not one particle of judgement or arrangement in any thing he does, and in my humble opinion is no more fit to take charge of an expedition than I am to command an army.

I should be most unwilling to trust him with a ship if I had one. What lucky fellows we are to have escaped so long without shipwreck. The Island we surveyed today was a mere sandspit with no trees on it and very little shrubbery. It is only a few feet above the level of the water and has a most beautiful and dazzling appearance. The beach is so white as to have the appearance of an immense snowbank. The island is coral and has an immense

number of Birds and Birds eggs on it. The birds are of various sorts. Tropic Birds, Gulls &c and their eggs are as large as those of the hen. Some of the officers brought them off to eat. Oh! that we should lose this glorious breeze! We might be going 9 knots on our course! And short of provisions too! The man is certainly deranged or a fool! "He a captain".

August 30th 1840. The wind has come out ahead and we have now a fine breeze from the Nd & Ed., but we are still in search of these interminable Islands. By the way we have not yet found the one we were in search of yesterday. Today at noon we were ~~to~~ 14 miles to leeward of it

August 31st 1840

I have no more idea where we are going or what we are doing, than the man in the moon, nor do I believe the Captn is more enlightened on this subject than I am. But this I do know, that we have passed all the Islands we were in search of.

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PART II

U.S. Ship Peacock: December 5th 1840

A book of odds & ends & scraps

Of life's good fortunes & mishaps.

Have been on board Peacock for about 10 days, and like her extremely well. Have now a room where I can retire and be alone. Guillon one of the most intelligent and amiable of men.

December 10th 1840

About noon today ran over one of the situations where Washingtons Isle is laid down on the charts without seeing any thing of it. As there is considerable difference of opinion about its actual position we are now searching for it. This is dull work.
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December 11th 1840

Early today made an island which is called Washington or York. It is low but one of the most luxuriant spots I have ever seen. It is probably 15 miles in circuit and literally crammed with cocoanut trees. It is uninhabited, as is proved by the quantity and tameness of the birds, mostly, which are on it. They came off to the ship in crowds and showed no fear of us, lighting every where and suffering themselves to be taken by the men. After fixing the position of the land we left it without landing.
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Dec 13th 1840

..... Early this morning made an Island which proved to be the one (Washingtons) we saw some days ago. Mistake of about 15 miles in our Longitude, Schooner had hers right. We are lying off

and on and will land toomorrow.

December 16th

..... Today made that everlasting Island which we have seen twice before. We are now on our way to Fannings Island.

Decr 18th 1840

..... Everything gets along smoothly on board as the Capn is a good natured man.

Decr 19th 1840

Today much as yesterday. We are looking for some shoal of which I do not know the name and of which the existance is doubtful.

Left off the attempt to find Fannings Island some days ago, the wind being ahead. Today crossed the line for the third time.

..... Got into a talk with Mr Hale/^{on deck}tonight ... the pleasure of talking to him is superior to that of reading and is instructive too

December 20th 1840 Sunday

Early this morning made the shoal we have been in search of. It is a long sand spit, probably two miles, and has a few shrubs &c on it. Birds are quite numerous. It has never been landed upon and still we made no attempt to do so!! This seems singular.

December 22nd 1840 Tuesday

... We are still beat~~x~~ing up for some islands or other whose names I do not know, and whose very existence has not been ascer-

tained. As I said before this is all very important &c but to me it is the most stupid business in the world.

January 1st 1841 Monday

We have at ~~1st~~ last run over the ground where the islands are laid down, but without seeing them. We are now going in search of Quiros and some others.

January 5th 1841 Tuesday.

..... Had a talk with Hale tonight about the books we used to read when we were boys. We were familiar with nearly the same. His amiability is delightful and shows itself in every sentence he utters.

Jany 8th 1841 Friday

Early this morning made an Island which we take to be Endibys tho we are not certain of it. It is six miles long or thereabout and 2 broad perhaps, and is so white as to look like an immense bank of snow. It is almost impossible to look at it is so dazzling in the sunshine. There is some herbage and a few shrubs on it. Three boats went on shore taking most of the Scientific Corps and some of the officers. One of the boats filled in the surf but no one was lost. Mr Peal brought off some birds and rats. The rats are like what are found on most of the Islands but different from all others. The birds were of two or three different sorts. Mr Rich got three or four different sorts of plants, Mr Dana some coral. As there were no people to talk to, Mr Hale did not go. A large tree was found washed up on the

Island which somewhat resembled mahogany in color. A piece of copper was likewise found which ^{is} probably part of some wreck. Surveyed the island and about dark left it.

January 11th 1841 Monday

Today discovered a small sand Island which presented nothing interesting. It is two miles long and has some little vegetation on it which is probably purslane. We take it to be Barnys Island tho there is such a number laid down here which do not exist that it is hard to say which it is.

January 17th 1841 Sunday

..... Early today we made an island which we take to be Sydney. I do not recognize it tho I saw Sydney Island in the Vincennes as one came up from the Feejees. We have not yet succeeded in beating up to it. Probably we may recognize it when we are nearer.

January 18th 1841 Monday

Early today came up with the Island and sent some boats on shore. It has a large lagoon. Some few cocoanut trees. A few huts of Turtle fishers were seen, but no people. Did not determine what Island it is tho no doubt it is the same we saw in the Vincennes, where there then were 13 people of Tahiti and a Frenchman. Land crabs were numerous and large. There were a great many birds. One of our messmates brought us a dozen plover which we will eat for breakfast toomorrow. The island is about 7 miles long and much cut up by branches of the Lagoon. No entrance to the

Lagoon was seen. Boats landed without much difficulty. Several specimens of birds were brought off, among others a tropic bird and a curlew. Island surveyed and we left it about own.
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January 22nd 1841 Friday

Searching for the Island of Quiros where the handsome people live.

January 25th 1841 Monday

..... Just before daylight this morning there was a heavy puff which carried away our fore sheet and just as it cleared up land was made only three or four miles ahead. It was a low but ~~a~~ quite an extensive Isle (probably 8 miles long) and thickly covered with luxuriant vegetation and with cocoanut trees. As we were cruising around the Island three double canoes came off to us and forty or fifty people, probably woman and children, were seen on a point of the land. The canoes had about forty men. They all united in a song as they approached us, and those who were not employed at the paddles went through various motions keeping time with the music and some holding up mats and other articles of trade. The Oahoo men did not understand their language. They were much like Samoa men, They were all fat and sleek looking and had the appearance of living well. Several of them had bad teeth which is very rare among the Islands. Their hair was black and curled, but not wolly. They had visors made of shell and fixed over their eyes after the manner of the shades we use in reading. Their dress was a single narrow mat worn like

a T bandage. Some of these had fringes hanging half way down the leg. Some of the mats were very handsomely made and striped with various colours. They had also nuts, some Tortoise-shell, several small canoes &c all of which they disposed of for anything we offered him tho they seemed to prefer knives, plainirons, files &c. They frequently made use of the word Toki which is very commonly used in these seas for any instrument of Iron.

A bottle or fishhook would buy any thing they had. They seemed anxious to trade but shewed no disposition to steal that I heard of. The chief had the tail feathers of the Tropic Bird stuck in his head which our Cook bought and gave me.

None of them came on board. While they were along side, a gun was fired to measure distance with the Schooner, when they were thrown into the greatest consternation. The chief jumped into the water and they all put off for the shore as soon as they got him on board. Soon after this, boats went to the shore with the Scientifics. They were received in a friendly manner tho the women and children were kept out of sight. Several other things were collected and among them a stool with legs at one end only, which they used to lean against when sitting on their mats; we have never seen this before. Some cocoanuts were brought on board. The Island was surveyed and by four P.M. we were off again. The women wear large mats which are wound around them and reach from above the waist to the ground. Their houses are thatched and are much like the Navigators except that they are oblong, whereas the Navigators are oval. The canoes, as I said, were double, and were very well made, being with the fibres

of the cocoanut husk. What we saw was probably the whole population of the Islands.

It has not been seen before for a long time that I know of; the last time was by the Pandora, Captn Edwards, who was in search of the mutineers of the Bounty. It was said at that time not to be inhabited. Finished Tom Jones and commenced Johnsons Lives of the Poets. Toomorrow we will probably make the Duke of Clarences Island which was seen when this was and was inhabited.

January 26th 1841 Tuesday

Heavy rains last night with squalls of wind. Nothing worth noting in the early part of the day except murkiness and heat of the weather. About 5 P.M. made an Island from the masthead 10 or 15 miles off, but it was too late to approach it, so we are laying off and on till morning. This is no doubt Duke of Clarence which we expected to make today. Read medicine, French and part of Roger's "Human Life". Tonight read Quiros Voyage in the S. Sea. No arms were seen at Duke of York except small straight clubs.

January 27th 1841 Wednesday

Early this morning the land we made yesterday was astern of us, we having passed it in the night. We were becalmed all morning and did not get near the Island till late in the evening when we had not time to land on it. We are now lying off and on till morning when we will send boats on shore. As we saw it this evening it seems to be a great many patches of land united by reefs. There are a great many cocoanuts. We have seen no natives. Read medicine and French and wrote the latter. Commenced

the letters of Lady Montague which I find extremely entertaining. She was certainly one of the most remarkable women who ever lived.

January 28th 1841 Thursday

Pretty much same as yesterday. We were becalmed all morning and did not get up to it in time to land. We are now lying off and on. We have not seen any natives tho we were quite near the shore this evening. The Island is probably ~~about~~ 20 miles in circuit and is split up into a number of parts connected by reef, and contains a large lagoon. One of these pieces of land is 6 or 7 miles long, the others are small round mounds. Read medicine this morning and Lady M, whose letters are really charming, more so by far than any I have ever had before. It was so insufferably warm today that I could not stay below long enough to read or write French. We have just had a squall (11 P.M.) and it is now raining. Lightening was quite vivid at 8 tho I heard no thunder.

January 29th 1841 Friday

Late last evening it came on black and squally so that we were obliged to leave Clarence Island for fear of running on it: but we did not much lessen our danger by doing so, for this morning a heavy squall came on about 3 oclock and soon after, breakers were heard ahead; just at that moment the weather cleared up and an Island was seen ahead and close aboard. In a very few moments more we should have been on shore. This Island is not laid down on the charts, so that we claim it as a discovery tho it may be Duke of Clarence, and the one we were at yesterday a new one. This is much like the other, clumps connected by reefs; it is ten

or twelve miles long and thickly covered with cocoanut and other trees, and with a rich herbage.

Early this morning our boats were sent to tow the Schooner off shore, she being close in and becalmed.

About 10 A.M. canoes were seen in shore of us fishing, but they seemed not at all disposed to approach us. Some boats were sent to communicate with them, but they were very shy at first and could be only approached by degrees; but as soon as one canoe could be induced to come near the boats all did so and they had a long talk and exchanged some things. Soon after the boats came along side, the canoes did so too. They came singing in the same manner as those at York Island, and were much like them in all respects. They wear the same visors and much the same dress.

They had no mats to sell, nothing in fact but a few cocoanuts, pearl fish hooks and the figure of a fish cut rudely in wood. They were eager to get our fishhooks. Guns were fired to measure when they all left in great fright. The boats then went on shore but landed on a part of the Island where there were no houses and saw only the people who had been to the ship. They saw no arms of any sort. No iron ware was found among them but a few glass beads were. The natives had figures of turtles, paddles, fishes &c tattooed rudely on their bodies. Cocoanuts were abundant here and goods. The canoes were single with outriggers, and leaked very little, being neatly put together with fibres of Cocoanut Husk. There were perhaps 60 of them alongside. Tomorrow boats will be sent to the town. I will endeavour to go.

Read Medicine French &c as usual and some of Lady Ms letters which are written in a style truly delightful.

January 30th 1841 Saturday

The boats went on shore today, but for some trifling cause I did not go. What a treat I missed. I have long wished to see people in exactly the state Columbus found the Americans in, and here I might have done so, but my evil star prevailed. The small Island (connected to the main by a reef) where the boats landed, was covered with houses so as to form one large town. It was about a mile in circumference and contained, from accounts, 800 or 1000 people. As soon as the boats reached the shore the chiefs came down bearing in their arms their old King who was white headed and dreadfully afflicted with Elephantiasis, as were all the old men that were seen. They were all extremely alarmed and threw down as presents every thing they could lay their hands on, begging our people at the same time to return to their boats. Some pulled off the mats which they wore and offered them as gifts.

Large mats were spread on the ground for our people to sit on. Some of the officers happening to look up at the sun and make some remark about the time of day, the natives who were near trembled violently. They said afterwards that we came from the sun. After some time spent in this way, the party went up into the town, but the women and children, who were very numerous had been sent off in canoes into the Lagoon. Mats of different sorts, fishhooks and lines, files and rasps made of the skin of the shark stretched on pieces of wood, and various other things were brought off. ~~THE~~

The people were much like those we saw at the other Island, probably better looking, and all of good size. The women and children, some of whom were seen by accident, were said to be very handsome indeed. The children and young women were in a state of perfect nudity; the old women wore mats with immense fringes, so thick that the hands of the wearer could just reach the outer edge of them and they were so heavy that they must have been enormously inconvenient. They were eager to trade for anything we had and never cavilled about price, always taking whatever was offered for any thing they had. They carried the desire to obtain what we had ~~so~~ so far that they would steal if the slightest opportunity offered itself. Mr Agate had a book, which was fixed round his neck with a guard, taken and thus lost the sketch he had taken of the group on the beach. No arms were seen among them except a few clubs in the God houses. These houses were built after the manner of those of the Navigators, but were not so good. The G. house was a large rough building and the god was concealed by mats. There were some immense pieces of timber in the house which they said they had obtained from the sea. They spoke a language so nearly resembling the Sandwich that Mr Hale could make himself very well understood. They told him that they had never seen white people before but once; that about four years ago a ship had been cast away on their coast and that two only of the crew got on shore. These have since died. They had a windlass and some iron tools which they obtained from this ship. The boats returned before night. I cannot but be thankful that we did not share the fate of these unfortunate people who were cast away here, as indeed

we were very near doing; for if it had remained thick only ten minutes longer we would most inevitably have gone on shore.

How many sad hearts may not the fate of those poor fellows have made!! I have some few things which I obtained at this place which I will endeavour to get home. Studies as usual. Probably we may visit this Island again, at least I hope so, after having been to Opolu.

January 31st 1841 Sunday

..... We are now going ~~to~~ before the wind to Nd & Ed in search of Quiros. This has not been seen, I believe, since 1606 when it was discovered by a Spaniard whose name it bears. After that we will go to Opolu

February 1st 1841 Monday

Since we left the other Island we have been running to Sd & Ed, and today, about 3 P.M., land was made on the weather bow about 15 miles distant. We commenced beating up for it and before dark could see it distinctly from the deck. It appeared at that view as two clumps of land. As we passed over the situation of Quiros last night and this is nearer it than any other we have seen, being about 40 miles out of the way, we reasonable suppose this may be the one. Studies as usual.

February 2nd 1841 Tuesday

All last night was rain and squally; some of the heaviest rain I ever saw. Most of the day has been the same, so that we have not been able to land on the Island, tho we were at one time

quite near it. It seems to be about 3 miles long and is certainly as pretty a piece of ground as you would wish to behold. It is elevated a few feet above the surface of the sea and is covered completely and thickly with trees and herbage. Cocoanuts are very plenty. We have not ~~seen~~ yet seen any natives, tho it would seem almost impossible for so fine an Island to be uninhabited in this situation.// We do not yet know whether it has a Lagoon. It is still supposed to be Quiros; and although it does not agree in some particulars with his description, those old fellows were so inaccurate that it may still be the same.

February 3rd 1841 Wednesday

Came up with the land today and sent boats to examine it. One of them was thrown on shore and the others could not land with safety. The officer in the boat was a good deal bruised but no one else was hurt. No inhabitants were seen, in fact none are supposed to be there, so that it cannot be Quiros. The next nearest on the chart is Swains, but probably this is a discovery. Why may not the last Island we landed at be Quiros? ... Boats got on board just in time, for soon afterwards a wind came up which would probably have swamped them.

February 4th 1841 Thursday

Hurrah! Today, after getting the Latitude at noon, we "up stick" for Opolu. Studies as usual.

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PART III

March 6th 1841 Saturday

Finished the survey of the harbor today and about 5 PM got under weigh and stood out.

March 14th 1841 Sunday

Sermon today. Made and partly surveyed a large Island; one of Ellice's group. It is about 10 miles in diameter and contains a large Lagoon, the Island being a mere circular slip of land covered with Coccoanut trees. Some natives came off to us and brought several articles of trade. They were fine looking men and had beards.

Their tatoo was different from what we have seen, being confined to the upper part of the body as low as the middle, and arms. The figures were pretty and gay. Their language was, I believe, a mixture of Navigator, Tahiti and Sandwich. We sailed from here same night.

March 15th 1841 Monday

Today made De Payster's group, but at a distance and the wind ahead. Then we had a succession of squalls of wind and rain and calms so that we did not come up with it today. The weather is very disagreeable. Studies as usual. Commenced reading Hamilton King, a sea Novel.

March 16th 1841 Tuesday

Rain and squalls and calms all day. Have not seen the land today. Forgot to mention that we had a heavy thunder storm last night.
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March 17th 1841 Wednesday

..... We have not yet come up with de Payster's group tho they have been seen today. Studies as usual.

March 18th 1841 Thursday

Today came up with De Paysters group. It is a large Island, with a ship passage into the Lagoon, and has a good many small ones scattered about it. A great many canoes came off to the ship and forty or fifty people came on board. They are somewhat like the people we saw last but still different in several respects. The tatoo on the upper part of their bodies is the same or nearly so, but then their legs are tatooed whereas the others were not. Their dress is a small strip of fringed matting which goes around their loins and a flap which is passed thro this hangs down in front. This latter is of various colors and much ornamented. Their hair is put up in a manner which it is impossible almost to describe so as to give a good idea of its appearance; it looks, however, like rolls of corded wool about a foot long and ~~three~~ these rolls are very numerous, probably 20 or more. The people vary much in color, more than any we have yet seen, some of them being as dark as Fijians and much like them in every respect, while others are but little darker than we are. The general color, however, is about that of the people of Oahoo. They all wear long beards, imperials and Moustachios. A great many of them had the skin peeling off their bodies all over, as if from the effect of the sun. One woman was with them. She was covered nearly all over with a kind of grass which was strung into fringes.

some feet long and one tied on above the other so that they overlapped like the shingles on the roof of a house. She remained in the boat and could not be ~~persuad~~ induced by any persuasion to come on board. There was one albino among them (the) decidedly the best looking man of the sort I have ever seen. He was tattooed like the others and his eyes tho light were not nearly so much bloodshot as those of his sort usually are. He seemed to stand the sun as well as any of them. His hair was perfectly white and somewhat crisped. These people seemd anxious to get any thing we shewed them but did not attempt to steal. They had mats of various colors. The figures on them were diamonds, as large as my hand and perfectly ~~regular~~ regular. Three colors predominated, red, blue & white. They had long spears barbed with the teeth of sharks. Fishhooks made of wood or shell, necklaces of shells, cocoanuts and several other things to trade. Their canoes were good, but not so neatly made as those of Samoa. Mr Hale was able to converse with them very well. Their language was, I believe, somewhat like Samoa tho partaking of others in these seas. The Island is low and ~~is~~ covered with cocoanut trees. In the afternoon an old man with Elephantiasis in both legs, a large mat round him, and moderately long curled hair, came on board in one of our boats, which had been near the shore. They said he was their King and their God. They seemed to treat him with a great deal of deference. He was about 50 years old. These people rub noses by way of showing affection. Finished surveying the Island by

sundown and stood away from it. The wind is moderate but fair. We expect to get to Kings Mill in about 8 days.

March 19th 1841 Friday

Light winds and calms most of the day. The whole sea, as far as can be seen, has been covered with Portuguese Men of War all day. There are literally millions of them.

24th March 1841 Wednesday

This morning discovered an Island a mile long and covered with cocoanut trees. Passed close to it about dark. Saw people and houses but none came off. This is a discovery.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME

Private

Journal
of a
Cruise in the
U. S. Exploring Expedition
U. S. Ship Peacock

~~1841~~

Volume II

March 25th 1841 Thursday

Today made an Island which is the one called by the Spaniards of French, "Grande Cocal" of the great Cocoanut grove. It is thickly covered by the trees from which it derives its name. Read as usual.

March 26th 1841 Friday

Nothing of importance today. We are now beating up for the Kings Mill group with a moderate wind dead ahead.

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PART IV

April 3rd 1841 Friday

Early today made one of the Kingsmill Islands called Sydenham. It is several miles, probably 20, in length, very low and covered with cocoanut trees. As soon as we got within a few miles several canoes were seen coming off under sail, and there were soon about 40 along side and near the ship. They seemed somewhat suspicious, so that we only succeeded in getting a few of them on board. They are not large men, but well made and seem very active. Their color is a dark reddish bronze, hair black and curled somewhat. Not much beard, but they wear what they have, and it only shows itself in the mustachoes imperial and goty, there being no whiskers. They are said to be much like Malays. Some of them have remarkably bad heads. Their eyes are sharp and piercing, but having, or I imagined so, a peculiar expression of cunning, suspicion and treachery which is very displeasing. Some of them wear their hair long but generally it is only moderately so. They have mats about 8 inches wide around their loins, but many of them are perfectly naked. They wear a sculcap which fits the head close, no visor. It is made double of cocoanut-leaves and is double with a small hole in the inside which answers for a pocket into which they put little things that are given them. Their canoes are different from any we have seen being made by sewing together pieces of plank about 2 inches wide and generally 3 or 4 feet long. They are strengthened by knees, inside. They are very narrow and

deep and consequently have great hoald on the water. Their masts are large being probably made of any light wood. The sails are made of matting and are triangular with one angle down. The canoes are very sharp fore and aft and in every way well calculated for speed. The outriggers are, or rather the pieces to which they are attached, are much ~~longer~~ larger than any we have seen before, being from 10 to 20 feet, while the outrigger stay is much shorter. The paddles are made by lashing the blade to a stick of ~~sufficent~~ sufficient length. All these peculiarities are owing to deficiency of timber of any size.

They had fishing λ nets just such as we use, ~~fixed to~~ fixed to the end of long poles. They wear necklaces of shells which are frequently 20 or more yards in length. They frequently have strings of the same material wound round their bodies. They also have circular pieces of white shell attached to shorter necklaces, which hangs on the upper part of the chest. Their bodies are tatoood from the level of the shoulder to near the ankles in streaks perpendicular with ribs going off on each side.

They have cocoanut shells full of a liquid much like molasses in consisentcy, color and appearance. They obtain it from the young cocoanut tree by cutting off the bud, catching the juice in shells and boiling it.

Tobacco seems to be the thing they wished for most and for a small piece of it any thing they have can be obtained. Two

coats of armor were bought for the expedition. They are made of the cocoanut husk platted and woven, are nearly an inch thick and fit the body beautifully. They cover the chest and abdomen completely and behind is a square piece which reaches above the head. They have long spears with a row of sharks teeth on each edge. Sometimes these form four edges, generally 2. Some of them are 30 feet long. These cut like the keenest knife. They have also swords of different sizes made in the same way. Many of these people have numerous scars on their bodies. They have fans such as we have seen before, made of Pandanus or cocoanut leaves. Some of them have round ~~o~~ their loins the skin of a kind of fish which is so spiny and that it would be impossible to penetrate it with a knife, arrow or spear. They have the skin of the Porcupine Fish on their heads; this is quite ornamental. Some of them have a disease of the skin which we noticed at the islands we made by on getting to Apia the last time, it is said to be a species Leprosy. About dark the canoes shoved off and we commenced beating up to windward. Reading as usual. Read Spurgheims work of Physiognomy which seems to me to be a very sensible thing

April 4th 1841 Sunday

Sermon as usual. Still beating up ^{for} ~~to~~ the land which is not visible.

April 5th 1841 Monday

Early this morning we had got close to an island and canoes

came off in large numbers with articles of trade, chiefly such as we saw the day before yesterday. There were also some things in addition. They had suits made like coats of mail of cocoanut husk twisted with small rope and netted. This seems to be a good protection against the teeth edged swords. They danced on deck several times and did it with repidity and excitement that some of them were quite exhausted at the end of a few moments. These people are by no means plump and well fed looking, but are on the contrary rather emaciated. About half of them have disease of the skin. The teeth of almost all the grown men are very defective ~~so~~ indeed, so much so that frequently they have not a sound tooth in their heads. Most of them have numerous wounds in various parts of the body, but usually in the back. They make baskets with a dozen different compartments in them. Their fishhooks are of wood and another of pearl. They have some spears tipped with the tail of the "sting ray". Their fondness for tobacco is astonishing, ~~they~~ they actually eat it.

Whales teeth are much in demand among them and is even more valuable than tobacco. These are the only people we have seen who do chew and do not smoke.

April 6th 1841 Tuesday

I forgot to mention yesterday that we came to anchor early on that day on the S ~~side~~ side of the island which is named Drummonds instead of Sydenham. There is no bay here but a moderate bend in the land, and as storms are rare occurrences

here, at least at this season of the year, it is a tolerably safe place to lie ~~for~~ for a short ~~time~~ time. Very early this morning canoes began to come off and at one time there were 95 around and near the ship, and a great many natives on board. The schooner and her boats were sent off surveying yesterday, and some boats sent into the shore, but as the people had rather a suspicious appearance the latter were recalled. Today, however, some boats landed with the scientifics and they staid on shore nearly the whole day. They say they did not see many articles of manufacture which had not been brought along side. The houses are built on pillars of coral 4 or 5 feet high and are covered with pandanus leaves after the manner of those of Fiji. They have wells for water which is by no means good. They have a fermented liquor made of the juice of the young ~~cocoanut~~ cocoanut. I do not know whether it is very intoxicating. They eat the Pandanus fruit. The women are said to be very pretty indeed. Their hair is long and black. Their dress is a cord which goes ~~around~~ around the waist with a small bunch of grass hanging down behind and before. Many of the young women were perfectly naked as were most of the men who were alongside today. I saw one woman on board who was by no means pretty. There is said to be a white woman here, wife of a whale-captain who was murdered by the natives in 1837 or 8. She has a child with her. The ship ~~was~~ was wrecked, some of the crew made their escape in a boat, but the boat in which the captain and his wife were was taken and all hands put to death.

We can get nothing out of them on the subject. Read Robinson Crusoe today.

April 7th 1841 Wednesday

Today a great many canoes were about the ship early and they had among other things, a great many suits of armor. They have now increased very quick in their demands for things, and ask a whales tooth for what could have been purchased the day before yesterday for a chew of tobacco. We must have seen in all at least 150 of their complete suits of armor viz: a stiff jacket which protects the whole body, a jacket of mail which covers the arms, and pantaloons like the latter: They have cords of human hair ~~plaited~~ plaited some of which are 50 or 60 yards long.

Strings of human teeth have been brought on board for sale. About $\frac{1}{2}$ past two today four of our boats with the Captn and nearly all the officers went on shore. They returned at dark with one man, John Anderson, short, and they suppose that he was murdered, poor fellow! As soon as they landed the people got around them and tried to entice them off singly under various pretences. Dr Guillon was near losing his life in this way. Fortunately Davis came up to the house where he was with five men just at the moment when the Dr expected to be attacked by 50 men.

When the boats were about to leave the shore, Anderson was missing and a party was sent thro the town to search for him, shouting and hollering his name the whole of the time, but no answer was obtained. Some boys directed the party to pursue a certain course as if they would there find the man but they soon

came to an enclosure fortified with bamboos where 200 men with armor on and spears and clubs in their hands were assembled. As there were only three in the party including the officer, he thought it prudent to return to the boat and as he did so he was followed at a short distance by the natives, who threw stones at him. One of his men was struck on the shoulder and staggered. The native who threw this stone would have been shot on the instant had not Davis ordered his men to desist, thinking that if the missing man was still alive his life would be forfeited by the death of a native. When the men had embarked a musket was fired as a signal to the lost man, but without any effect. Probably the poor fellow is being eaten at this very moment. One of the officers thought he heard a gun go off in the village some time before the men came down to the boats, which was possibly that of poor Anderson. How melancholy is his fate. Even if he is alive, knowing as he does the character of these people, which is worse than that of the Feejeeans, he must suffer more than the pangs mentally. Whether an attempt will be made to recover the man if he proves to be alive or to avenge his death if that has happened, I do not know.

Probably all proceedings of this sort will be deferred till we are thro surveying and till the schooner returns from her circuit of the Island. I sincerely hope they may be severely punished if he is not forthcoming toomorrow. Probably we will kill some 50 or 60 of them & burn their town. Those who were on shore seem to think these people suffer from want of food as they eat the

~~eat/the~~ Pandanus fruit and the rind of the Coconut. They have a little Tara but very little. I saw a boy today who looked in the face to be 60 years old, tho he is probably not more than 16 and the whole of them have a meagre look tho they are very nimble and strong for their size. I mentioned that many of them had bad teeth, this is confirmed by seeing more of them. A great many men who ∇ are not grown have this defect.

April 8th 1841 Thursday

Today a great many canoes were at the ship, but none from the town where our man was taken. One man from a town near that one said that our man was alive and he promised, in consideration of a quantity of Tobacco, to bring him off, but no doubt he is deceiving us. It was determined today by the Captn to send some armed boats on shore in the morning and either get the man or punish the people. I got permission to accompany the party. Everything was got as near ready as possible tonight so that we may start before the heat of the day toomorrow.

April 9th 1841 Friday

At 4 a.m. this morning all hands were called and commenced getting the boats ready for their departure. At or before seven the schooner, (having come back yesterday) got under weigh and stood in towards the shore, but could only get about half a mile nearer the scene of action than the ship was. A little after seven the boats were all manned and ready for departure. It is necessary to say that the town we were going to attack extends along the beach about a mile, and back about one hundred yards the coconut

trees and bushes are so thick that a man might very well conceal himself ten steps within them. Along the whole front of the town about 30 paces from the water, posts are set up a few feet apart and a close sort of bamboo work fill up the spaces between them; this is about 5 feet high and so firm that we had difficulty in pulling it down at some places when we rushed to get thro. The God house stood outside this breastwork close to the water, on a platform of stones a few feet above the level of the water; it is large enough to hold 400 or 500 people. Just before 8 oclock we set off from the ship, there being 80 of us all told in seven boats. The men were armed with muskets, pistols and cutlasses. The officers generally with pistols, swords & double ~~barreled~~ barreled guns. We had about 5 miles to pull, but fortunately it was cloudy at the time so that we did not, as we expected to have done, suffer much with heat. When we were within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the shore Mr Walker, who had command, formed the boats into line abreast and in this way we pulled to within 150 yards of the God House, when Mr Walker, in whose boat Mr Hale was, pulled ahead of the others to talk with a native who advanced to meet him. Some Tobacco had been brought to offer for our man and it was now shown him and the intention of offering it explained to him, but it seemed to have no effect and his intention evidently was to intice our boats within mark of his people. Finding this to be the case, Mr Walker told Mr Perry, in whose boat I was, that he intended opening a fire on them, but that he would first throw in a rocket.

All this time the main body was collected in front of the God house and about 50 men in the water at various distances from us. There was the most clamorous din of noise I ever heard. They were shouting and beckoning to us to come on, beating the water with their swords, and spears in token of defiance and evidently expecting to have an easy conquest. A great many of them had on armor. At this time a rocket was sent among those at the God House, which was aimed so well that it went into the middle of them and caused them to scatter tho they did not flee. Mr Peale who had a double barreled rifle was then ordered to fire at a leader, this he did and brought him down. Then the men were ordered to fire in volleys and the natives squatted in the water and dodged so that it was hard to say at the time how many were killed or wounded. After the men had fired twice, I believe, we pulled right up to the beach and landed and the natives all retired out of gunshot as we did so. Having now fair possession; our men were divided into three parties, one staid by the boats, one marched round to the back of the town to burn it there and a third was ordered to set fire to the front. I was with this third party. We set fire to the breastwork and houses for near a mile. All their property seemed to have been left in the houses. We burnt some magnificent canoes, one of them, I think, was 6 feet deep. We saw plenty of natives, as we marched along the beach, but they kept out of our way generally. Half a dozen of them were fired and one or two of them with effect, but not generally. Everything was done with perfect coolness and order and not a man was allowed

to stir out of his place. By 12 oclock the whole town was in a blaze. We suffered extremely with heat as the sun was pouring down and there was only a small space between the beach and the immense fire we had kindled, and the smoke which blew immediately in our faces and the embers which were flying about were almost suffocating. There are various estimates of the number of natives who opposed our landing, some say 800 I think about 300. There are different opinions about the number of killed and wounded too. I can answer for 4 killed, some say 20. No doubt many more were killed and mortally wounded than we saw. The number of houses burnt, including canoe houses, is estimated at 300, and as all their property was in them, and most of the cocoanut trees near probably killed, the loss will be most seriously felt by them.

After the burning was over and we ~~were~~ were about to embark, an old man, chief of another village, came down to beg that we should not injure his dominions. We explained to him that we would not, and he seemed highly pleased. He was at war probably with the party we had punished, as his people, who accompanied him at a distance, to the number of 200, were seen pillaging what little property had escaped the flames. We now embarked, it being about 1 oclock. As the tide had fallen we had to wade off about half a mile to the boats. We spread our sails to a light breeze and at 2 oclock were on board ship. One or two of our men wounded themselves with their cutlasses, one so that he was put on the sick list.

These people evidently expected to make pray of us and seemed determined to fight till we fired into them several times and probably they did not know the effect of our arms till they had

felt it. This Island is more than 30 miles long and is more thickly covered with cocoanut trees than any other I recollect to have seen. In some places it is not more than 50 yds wide; and the broadest part, which is at the place where we made the attack is not more than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Dr Haven who saw the whole of the island says there must be 10,000 people on it.

Judging from the number of wounds we saw, these people must be continuously at war with one another. They probably live chiefly on fish. They eat also Cocoanuts and Pandanus fruit and a little Tara, but the quantity of this latter is insignificant. They are no doubt frequently pressed for food. We saw nothing of our man. After all it was melencholy to come away without him. Their houses are built on stakes or coral pillars ϕ about five feet high. The lower part is open and is matted. The people probably sit here in the day time. You go into the upper story thro a small trap door, and this ^a ~~com~~partment is divided into two which communicate by a hole just big enough for a man to crawl thro. They have a great many things about their houses which require a good deal of ingenuity in the manufacture. I only had three shots, and thank God did not kill anyone, altho I felt very much like it at the time. At 4 p.m. we got under weigh and before night made Bishops Island.

April 10th 1841 Saturday

Surveyed Bishops Island today. It looks much like Drummonds. Some canoes were seen at a distance but could not overtake us.

Ship was scrubbed today so could not study.

April 11th 1841 Sunday

Had sermon today. Made and surveyed a small Island. Finished Exodus and read the Book of Leviticus.

April 12th Monday

Surveying some of the other Islands of the group, whose names I do not know. Some natives came on board. They were better looking men than those at Drummond, and had the appearance of being better fed. Three young women whom they brought off with them were really quite pretty. The name of the Island from which these people came is Henderville. Read medicine and french today and copied journal.

April 13th 1841 Tuesday

Much as yesterday. Some canoes were seen but did not come alongside. Read medicine, French and Modern Europe and wrote Journal. We will probably not be on the N.W. Coast till the 1st of July. When we left Oahoo we were to have been there by the middle of April.

April 14th 1841 Wednesday

Surveying Halls Island most of the day. Some canoes came - and one of them was at one time alongside but a gun was fired when he cast off and could not be induced to return. People much like the last we saw. Better looking than Drummonds. Weather pleasant generally. Saw an immense shoal of Porpoise today. About dark had a heavy rain squall which lasted only a few moments. Read

medicine this morning, wrote journal in afternoon, after dinner read Russel ~~and~~ after supper French and then a walk on deck and a talk with Hale. He is, I think, decidedly the most talented man in the Expedition, and his character is charming.

April 15th 1841 Thursday

Nothing of importance today. Still cruising among and surveying the Kings Mill group. Read Blandin, French and Russel and wrote journal.

1841

April 16th/Friday

Today went close to Woodle Island from which some canoes came off and in one of them was a White man who was desirous to leave the Island. He said he ran away from an English whaling ship three years ago and had been very kindly treated by the natives & ever since. His wife came off with him. She was a very fine looking woman. I will write what this man says about the Island in a few days.

April 17th 1841 Saturday

Last night came very near going on shore while the ship was going 6 knots. Fine breeze today. Islands in sight in different directions. Read Russel and French today.

April 18th 1841 Sunday

Still cruising among the Kingsmill. Had sermon today. Read the Book of Numbers in morning and some of Russel in afternoon. This is my birthday I am 28 years old! It seems only yesterday since I was a boy! We sailed from the U.S. 32 months ago this

day. Nothing of importance.

April 19th 1841 Monday

Still in same group. Quite squally for the last two days. Last night I lay in bed fairly burning for a drink of water and not able to obtain a drop. Just then a heavy shower fell and I made one of the boys catch me one of the most delightful glasses I ever had. Nothing of importance. Read medicine, Russel and French, and commenced one of Miss Austin's novels viz "Pride & Prejudice".

April 20th, 21st, 22nd, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Nothing has happened these three days. We are still cruising among the Kings Mill Islands and surveying them, but have not seen any natives ~~yet~~ lately. The man we found at one of these Islands (Kirby is his name) gives some curious particulars of their manners and customs. He says they are much at war and make slaves of their prisoners. Some of the small islands are tributary to the large ones. He never saw human flesh eaten but once. One of their chiefs was killed for some crime and his body eaten. It is not considered disgraceful for single women to enjoy the pleasures of love, and they take advantage of this impunity to a great extent, but all the offspring is destroyed in the womb by pressure. Some of the chiefs have as many as 13 wives. All the children of the women who are married, after the second one, are destroyed in the womb. This practice, so shocking to our ideas of humanity, is said to be necessary to prevent over population. The father has a right to enjoy the wife of his son, but unfaithfulness to

the marriage bed, except to this extent, is punished with death both of man and woman.

The skulls of their parents are preserved and carried about with them from place to place, their bodies are buried. The souls of the departed wander about in the air and frequently commune with their friends they have left behind in dreams. What a ~~beautiful~~ beautiful idea this is! This is all I have collected, but Mr Hale has got the whole story, and no doubt it will be published in the big book. Read medicine Russel and French and some of Jane Austin. The latter is delightful. She paints people as they really are.

April 23rd 1841 Friday

Surveying the Island called Mathews, or Charlotte or both. This island is about 30 miles in circumference and has a fine large lagoon in it. Read medicine French and Russel.

April 24th 1841 Saturday

Boats were got ready to land the Scientific corps and as the Schooner had made signal for medical assistance, I was ordered to go in one of the boats and join the Schooner after the landing had been effected. The ship was about 5 miles from land when we left her, and the sun as hot as possible, so that we had a disagreeable pull of it. Dana, Agate and Davis were in the boat with me. Landed Dana and Agate about $\frac{1}{2}$ past two. The natives came into the water to meet us; there were only about 30 of them. The place we landed at was a small clump of a few acres connected

to the main Island at each end by a long reef. After waiting about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour the Schooner had to within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of us and I went on board. Reynolds was leaving for shore just as I got alongside. Soon after I got on board old Knox resolved to move into the Lagoon on this side where he was sure there was a passage and to endeavour to find one out on the other side and meet Emmons who had charge of the survey that was making.

We beat in very well through a fine wide passage our shoalist water being $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms, and after sailing about 5 miles we kept away to go out again, but instead of going out we went on shore. The sheets were eased off to endeavour to but this could not be effected. The natives in canoes now beginning to collect, Knox asked me to load and get in order the muskets and in the mean time he got a kedge out on the larbord bow and endeavoured to heave her head round but could not succeed. The was then brought over the quarter but with very little effect. The tide had now fallen so much that all further efforts were considered useless. Some of the canoes seemed disposed to come on board of us, and after trying all gentle means to get rid of them, we were obliged to fire into them. This we did in such a manner as to cut their sails and rigging and thus shew them the power of our arms, without wounding the people. After firing half a dozen shots in this way they hauled off a little but continued to sail about and laugh at us till dark. They generally jumped over board as soon as we fired but got in again immediately. One shot out the fellows haulyards and his sail

went overboard and immediately all hands except one jumped into the water and commenced swimming on shore about 3 miles distant.

It was five oclock when we struck and as Emmons boat was in sight, we made signal to him that we were aground. About 8 p.m. he got on board. By this time the tide had left us so that we had careened over till it was impossible to walk on deck. Every thing was turned topsy turvey. We how made signal to the Ship that we were aground and propped up the Schooner so as to prevent her going over any further.

There was no sleep for any one on board. In the first place there was no place to sleep and in the next we were obliged to keep a lookout on the natives. It was a beautiful night. I staid, I was going to say laid, but I was almost standing up, on deck with a cloak around me, but could not sleep. The people on shore were burning signal fires and blowing war conches almost the whole night. At daylight, the tide being in, we were nearly afloat, and ~~was~~ hauled off easily with the assistance of an anchor. Just before we got off the natives began to collect about us in large numbers; there were about 200 of them in 25 canoes. One of them came so near that we fired over their heads to drive them away and just at that moment, being all clear, we made sail. The canoes followed us, and two of them outsailed the schooner, but we left the others astern. As soon as they saw we were about to be off they tried to stop us by shewing us articles of trade.

If we had remained about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour longer we would have probably been under the necessity of killing some of them. About 10 oclock

this morning (25, Sunday) we got alongside the ship when Capn Hudson ~~told us that he too had been~~ hailed us and told us he had been on shore too in the night, on Knoxes Island, He touched very lightly, however, and backed off immediately.

Had church today and a rain and wind squall soon after we got on board. About 9 at night heavy squall of wind and rain. Read nothing today, being too sleepy.

April 26th 1841 Monday

Cruising to see whether Mathews and Charlotte are the same. Made land this afternoon. Some rain during the day. It is whispered that we go to Oahoo. Read medicine today, Russel and some of 'Mansfield Park' by Miss Austin. Went to sleep at 3 and slept till 9 at night so that I missed my French.

April 27th 1841 Tuesday

Weather squally and rainy. No events worth recording. Read medicine, French and Miss Austin.

April 28th 1841 Wednesday

Nothing of importance today read as usual.

April 29th 1841 Thursday

Today we were near Pitt's island and a great many fine canoes came off loaded with people.

One of the canoes had a white man in it who asked to come on board and when we told him we would heave to for him he took off his hat and waved it; his long hair streaming in the wind his face overgrown with beard and his cloathing of mats, brought Robinson

Crusoe into my head. He said he had been here 6 years. There are more fat men among these natives than I ever saw in the same number before.

There were several who would, no doubt, weigh two hundred and fifty. About 30 of these fat fellows were said to be sons of one man, who himself did not seem more than 50. He has 50 wives, and almost all the people who are married here have ten or twelve. When you marry the eldest daughter here you are entitled to all the others! The white man had been kindly treated. Mr Rich saw here what he supposes to be the plant from which Chinese rice paper is made, and went on shore to try and get a good specimen, but did not succeed. These people are naked. Their hair is long black and beautiful; sometimes straight, and sometimes slightly frizzed. Their beards are in proportion. Take them all in all they are fine well fed looking fellows. They reminded me, about the head, of pictures of Charles 2nd. The white man had a mat around his body which reached to his knees, and a poncho of the same material which covered all the upper part of his body, it had a few stitches under the arms which converted it into a kind of jacket. When we were about leaving, the white man having ~~not~~ agreed to remain with us, six of the natives, determined to stay too, and we had actually to punch (?) them out of the ship. The white man seemed much confused when he first came on board and did not know for some time whether he wanted to go with us or not. It was amusing to hear him talk. He would frequently talk Kingsmill to us and English to the natives; and at other times a mixture of both. He is an Englishman, was out here whaling in a

Sydney ship when some difficulty occurring between him and the mate, this man jumped into a canoe and put off. Read medicine, French and Miss Austin.

April 30th 1841 Friday

Calm most of the day. Sent some things on board the Schooner. Nothing of importance except that we were put on half a gallon of water and 3/4 of food today. Read as usual.

May 1st 1841 Saturday

Wind freshening. At daylight made neathermost of Pitts Islands on the bow. At 8 a.m. it was about 2 miles distant. Nothing of importance.

May 2nd 1841 Sunday

Had service today. Wind hauled fair and freshned. At 11.30 a.m. made one of the Islands of Mulgraves group. Read some of Josua but was too to study.

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Journal of Frederic D. Stuart,

Captain's Clerk,

aboard the Peacock

Aug. 19, 1838 — July 18, 1841.

Excerpts from microfilm;
relating to the Gilbert and
Ellice Islands.

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March 12. ... During the evening passed within 25 miles of Mitchell's Group, but saw nothing of land. ...

March 14. ... At 11 a.m. standing W. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. low land was ~~discovered~~ discovered from the mast head commenced a survey of Ellice's group as it is called. Discovered on the beach several natives, and 2 or 3 canoes, one of which came alongside with a few articles of trade.

... .. consists of a number of small low islands similar to those of the Pamoutu group connected together by a reef of coral forming a kind of oblong circle, in the midst of which is a large lagoon probably nine or ten miles long and five or six wide, the whole island or islands occupying a space of some twelve or thirteen miles in length and at least seven wide. They are thickly covered with wood, mostly cocoa nuts and inhabited by a people somewhat different in appearance to any other before seen. With regard to their Number, Condition, Manners, Customs &c and the product of the island we know nothing, and can only judge according to the little we saw of them. While alongside a canoe with five men having paddled off to us, several others ~~were seen~~ were seen in shore as well as a number of natives on the beach, but none but the one ventured off. Those we saw were all tall well formed and featured, of a complexion darker than the ~~Portuguese~~ Navigators, and not so dark as the Fijis with thick bushy hair & beards. Three of the number were tattooed, body and arms in a style unlike any of the islanders we have fallen in with and appeared more savage and warlike than even the Fijis although their manner was less boisterous and more agreeable.

In purchasing the few articles they were in possession of (which

consisted of mats cocoa nuts and two or three war implements) they appeared perfectly to understand the art of bartering, and disposed of everything to the best advantage. But little information was had from them respecting themselves or island. But I believe our philologist could from what he observed make out to understand and be understood, had more time been spent, but we were obliged to fill away when the canoes stood off for the shore. During the afternoon employed surveying the island, the schooner taking the south while we ran down the north (side) at a distance of about two miles from the reef. When off the west side an opening was discovered into the lagoon of nearly a quarter of a mile in width, which we think might admit small craft, or even larger vessels should necessity drive them to such a harbour.

March 15. 4 a.m. hove to believing we had reached the latitude of Depeysters group, which if so it would be impossible for us to see at the dis of three miles owing to the thick weather. About an hour after it cleared up when we found ourselves about two miles off/ the south west end of the above named island, which is quite low resembling those seen the day previous.

[March 16?] while runnigg along the land several canoes were seen in shore if as under sail, a number of which came along side with a few articles of trade. Discerned when about the centre of the island what appeared to be an entrance to a large lagoon, and at the same time a number of canoes coming out through it. A large village was also seen a little distance from the opening situated in one of the largest of the small islands of which the group consists. many canoes came along side probably 30. Each containing an average 5 men

with various articles, such as mats, spears, fish hooks &c and commenced a brisk trade with our people. Many of the strangers made their canoes fast and came on board without the least apparent fear, among them two albinos, which we at first took to be white men at a distance and indeed when the first came along side. Not a few of our men and officers hailed our supposed countrymen and kindly invited him on board, but mark their surprise when he answered them with — Matou Enae &c. From those that came on board our philologist Mr Hale was able to pick up much information respecting ~~them~~ their [?] island its productions, the neighbouring islands and in fact we may say the ~~whole~~ whole history of the people, who before was hardly known to exist, had been found out, and that from what we learnt strangers might visit the [?] and get ~~at~~ all the refreshment the Id produces.

The inhabitants of Depuysters Island resemble those of Ellices Group, who no doubt they have intercourse with if they are not really the same people. In manners and appearance there is no visible difference. The tattooing is precisely the same; canoes constructed alike; language as far as we know one and the same.

They appear to have had intercourse with vessels and whites frequently, and continually made signs for us to go in shore with them, saying by way of inducement they would give us women, cocoa nuts &c. We have no reason to doubt the honesty of these people but I should be inclined to think them treacherous, this I am led to believe from their phrenology and development of their heads and have no doubt they might be guilty of any act of that nature. Their dress consists of only a piece of tappa or mat around their loyins, and some [even stick?] a mat upon their shoulders. Among the visitors was one female, who we could not

entice on board butsat in her canoe wrapped up in her native cloak,
 raised
 She appeared very modest and hardly/her eyes even when spoken to by her
 own people. Parts of her body and arms were tatoood as also was her
 face. Most of the men had long and shabby beards with long matted hair
 tied up on the top of the head. They were very dirty and not a few were
~~troubled~~ troubled with a disease which covered the whole body, not unlike
 the mange, but supposed to arise from exposure to the sun& water.

...large ~~entrance~~^{passage} into the lagoon ... good anchorage ... ~~the~~
 the boat was escorted back to the ship by about fifteen canoes with the
 king & his suit who came on board received a few presents and soon shoved
 off as also did the other natives (being dark) island
 composed of many small patches, connected together by a reef of coral.
 abounds with coconuts and well wooded.

March 21. ... At noon gund that we were notmore than 25 miles to the
 east of Netherland's Island as laid down on the chart, but did not see it
 on account of thick weather.

March 23. ... ~~Low land~~ Low land was discerned from the mast head bearing
 N. by W. dist about 10 miles. This island we took to be one named in a
 manuscript handed to Capt. Hudson at Sydney, but on no chart, and if so
 is by our observation correct in lat. but some 8 or 10 miles to the east.
 It is well covered with wood, but we have no other knowledge of it and
 will probably on account of head winds pass to the north & west without
 giving it a survey.

March 24. ... An island was discovered bearing W by N $\frac{1}{4}$ N distant 15 miles
 at least. This we took to be at first (at first) [?] Sherson or Cocal
 Island, which island we knew could not be far off and of which we were in

search. But on our approach it was ascertained to be a discovery answering in no respects the description of the [second?] island or any other land [?] spoken of. We therefore made all sail and stood for it. When within one & $\frac{1}{2}$ mile hove to in station and determined its position lat $6^{\circ} 19' 30''$, long $176^{\circ} 25' 30''$, and extent which was about $\frac{3}{4}$ miles and probably $\frac{1}{2}$ wide thickly covered with cocoanut and other trees without any lagoon, just land and surrounded by a reef of coral. From appearance we judged it as thickly inhabited, many huts were seen among the bushes and in the cocoanut groves, as also were several natives who did not appear disposed to pay us a visit, although within $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the shore. No canoes were seen which may account for their backwardness. We have no doubt but that this island is peopled from the islands lately seen of from the same stock and that little diff exist if any in the Manners Customs &c.

March 25. ... at 5.30 a.m. discerned low land on the weather beam bearing N.E. by N. this we believed to be St. Augustine, said to be connected with that of Sherson's, saw nothing like a reef although within 8 miles at sundown.

April 3. ... At 5.40 a.m. discerned low land to the N. which we at first took to be Marias Island, but which proved to be Drummonds one of the Kings Mill Group. A great number of canoes under sail came off to us. At 10 hauled up the mainsail for them to come along side. Not being able to hold on they again shoved off for the shore. I believe 48 in number, with at least 4 in each. [Afternoon] many canoes came along side and some of the natives on board with chickens cocoa nuts mats, spears &c all of which we purchased.

April 6. [At Tabiteuea] At daylight many canoes came off, 92 in number completely surrounding the ship with all the productions of their island, and appeared to be very friendly although rather inclined to pilfer, requiring all the time much watching. Among the visitors were several women. Lt. Perry took command of the armed boats on an expedition to the town of Utiroa opposite which we were anchored. The party consisted of the Scientific Corps, two or three other officers and myself, the object of the visit was to make some observations on the Dip and Intensity as well as determine the lat and long, also to give the scientific gents an opportunity of gathering such information as might be picked up to ascertain if there lives or had lived on the island a white woman, said to have been taken from a vessel some time since, which vessel was wrecked on the reef off the N.W. pt and all on board massacred, except the Capt's wife and child. Capt. Hudson received this information from one of our men who stated the account as taken from a journal on board a vessel to which he belonged, which vessel made an attempt to rescue her but owing to some misfortune was disappointed in landing. (The journal is on board).

On landing we were met by a great number of natives, old and young, male and female, who cordially took us by the hand and led us to their town house situated near the water. At this place upwards of 500 souls had assembled to receive us. Here we halted and made a number of observations, which I am inclined to think are of but little value owing to the great crowd which pressed in upon the instruments obliging us to keep our arms too near ourselves (for our safety and the instruments) for to make observations worth anything. In the meantime several of the officers took a tour around the village escorted by several of the head men (as well as any quantity of youngsters), who attempted to explain matters &

things to our philologist who had already picked up a great number of words & was able to carry on a pretty good conversation, at the same time making the necessary enquiries about the woman, but I believe in the latter unsuccessful. He learnt from them, however, that a vessel had been wrecked, but any farther knowledge or account of the [?] they appeared to be ignorant, but notwithstanding there ~~appeared to be a mystery~~ was a visible mystery in the whole affair. In many of the huts parts of the vessel was found and many of the houses we were not allowed to enter, for some cause to us unknown. Their village extended for nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles along the beach, situated under a young and beautiful cocoe-nut grove with a large and well built town house in the centre, a little from the other houses. Opposite this was a kind of look out house and directly behind it lived the chief of the district and other distinguished personages, the former we not see. The houses are generally well built and not infrequently two story in [?] and built with a kind of Garret which is entered through a kind of scuttle or trap door. Other than this they differ very little from those before seen although much lighter and more airy built. They are generally situated in a small enclosure made of a kind of picket fence, particularly those along the main road or fronting the water. As before said they are very airy and well floored with mats, but other comforts seem to be scarce and in all our rout we did not see any articles of food or cookery utensils. Thus we were led to believe they are not exceedingly well off. Several patches of taro were seen in holes or pits about 10 foot deep which they are obliged to have for the purpose of gathering the necessary moisture which taro requires.

The natives appeared to be friendly although they evinced a great desire to steal and frequently were caught in the very act of picking our pockets.

Their greatest demand for the most valuable articles in their possession was a whale's tooth or a small piece of tobacco, which continuously sounded in our ears — tobacco, tobacco. After several hours ramble round the town and the vicinity we again mustered at the boats and shoved off for the ship, but not until we had assured the natives that we would return again in the morning, which promise appeared to give them a great deal of pleasure. On coming along side we found a great difficulty on reaching the gangway so numerous were the canoes and natives who had come from all parts of the island to see and trade. These shoved off at dusk telling us at the same time they would come again in the morning.

April 7. ... ship as usual crowded with male and female natives and completely surrounded by canoes, filled with various articles of trade. About Capt. H. with his gig and four other boats left the ship for the town and after an absence of four hours returned with the loss of John Anderson who we fear has been decoyed by the natives and massacred. He was however armed but unfortunately might have yielded to their kindnesses and suffered himself to be off his guard. Before leaving the shore diligent search was made for him and a reward offered for his delivery. Of this the natives took no notice but to the contrary showed every sign of hostility, many of them having armed themselves and collected together on the beach, no doubt with the intention of taking the boats, and finding their plans fail began to stone our people. Crying out (as our philologist says) for us to come on shore at the same time brandishing their spears and swords in the air and dashing them on the ground with great fury and rage. No damage was done and at dusk the boats left the beach minus the person above named to [sic.] the mercy of the barbarous wretches, Capt. Hudson having

determined to wait until the following day hoping he might return or that the hope of a reward might induce them to bring him back, and accordingly made preparations for surveying the reef believing at the same time that the canoes from that village would be off as usual at daylight.

April 8. No canoes were seen this morning which is too strong a proof that all is not right with our lost man and great fears are entertained for his safety. At 7 the boats shoved off on surveying duties, and at 10 the schooner came too near us. During the forenoon a few canoes came alongside but it was observed they came from the north west pt and on enquiry they knew nothing of our man, stating at the same time that they were not on good terms with Utiroa and that they the Utiroans were very bad &c &c. Having recognized none of the natives along side today as belonging to ~~the~~ Utiroa Capt. Hudson determined to destroy their town on the following morning, supposing Anderson was not forthcoming, which we had little hope of, although one of the natives of another town had agreed to bring him off for 6 pounds of tobacco the next day.

April 9. At 4 a.m. all hands were called and preparations ~~for~~ made for attack of the town above named. Upwards of 80 men were armed equipped and gormed into three divisions under command of Walker, and at daylight were ready for shoving off. The schooner F. Fish was ordered in shore as near as possible to cover the boats. Accordingly she ran in and as soon as she had reached her position our boats seven in number shoved off. No canoes were seen in the direction of the town, but a number came along side from other parts of the island, among which was the man mentioned last evening as having ~~been~~ agreed to fetch Anderson but gave us to understand he was not there, signifying that he had been killed. After an hour's

pull the boats were seen to land, previous to which [?] a general volley of Musquetry was discharged. At this time about 50 canoes were collected round the ship, with at least 200 natives in them, who appeared to have no idea of what we were about or the object of the boats leaving filled with men and arms, although they had seen them and been startled by the firing of some of the musquets before leaving. None of the natives were allowed on board, and the remaining part of the crew called together to receive instructions as to the necessity of being on their guard while surrounded by so many hostile savages. All the arms were got in feadiness, and each set about what most interested himself, some watching the shore, others trading through the ports &c &c. At length a dense smoke was seen rising from the village and we could plainly see that the large town house was wrapped in flames. This the natives along side also saw, and nearly half of them shoved off and made all sail for their homes, ~~ye~~ no doubt fearing a like malediction should fall upon them and theirs. Those that remained only shrugged up their shoulders and said it was good, taking no further notice, although it was evident they seemed not at all pleased, and they gradually left one by one and in a short itme we were again alone, only the long string of little crafts (which had just left us) seen beating to windward for their respective homes under their snow white sails (rendered so by the reflection of the sun) bearing a strong contrast with the heavy columns of thick dark smoke covering the once beautiful town, intermingled with fire and oinders arising far and wide to the South, at one time completely hiding the town from our view, while the upper deck was thickly covered with ashes. Nothing could be seen of our party who were hid by the smoke, but it was evident they were at work and as the fire spread to the right and left in rapid progress we could fancy them applying the lighted torch or match to the huts of what

only an hour before comprised the neat and peaceful village of Utiroa. At length however the torch ceased to be applied and the flames to rise. When a strong breeze from the north and east swept the scarce moving smoke which had lingered among the trees & bushes surrounding the now mass of ashes leaving the whole extent of ruin open and clear to our view, and now for the first time we could plainly see detached parties of men, bending their steps to where the boats had hauled to recover them and finally they again embarked and pulled for the ship.

... ..

Boat Expedition, April 9th 1841

As stated in the days work our boats seven in number shoved off from the ship with about 82 souls in all and proceeded as per orders to the village of Utiroa. On their approach to the shore a great number of natives were seen (estimated at 6 or 800) collected together on or near the beach, the greater part of them armed equipped and evidently prepared for battle. The boats however advanced within a few yards of the shore, when our philologist (Mr Hale) made the necessary enquiry as to the fate of Anderson. They however made no direct answer but seemed to close regularly in upon the boats forming themselves in order for an attack. After some minutes conversation with them & finding that they had got too near the boats, many of them having already waded up to their waists in a body were but a few feet off dashing their spears in the water with hideous yells, daring our party to come in shore. The boats again retreated a short distance and a rocket was sent in among a cluster of old and young who had ~~huddled~~ huddled together near the large town house. We are not sure that this had any serious effect, but the crowd was immediately dispersed, and many of the terrified wretches fled to the

far as the village extended this party returned to the boats, the other party having proceeded as far on the other side of the town and burnt all before them. Several canoes were destroyed and many fine cocoa nut trees. Needless to say that nothing was seen or heard of our lost man & we have every reason to believe he has been massacred and devoured by these cannibals.

The estimated number killed was about 12 and a great number wounded which of course we have no way of knowing correctly. It may be well to say that it is evident these people have no idea of the effects of powder or the use of a musket, from their utter indifference when the whole of our fire was hurled at them. None of our party received the least injury and returned with the full conviction that the blood of their shipmate had been revenged.

Remarks on Drummonds Island

... productions disappointing : nothing but cocoanuts and pandanus. From the cocomit a form of molasses (very agreeable to the taste) procured as on De Peyster's group, where it was supposed to be made of pandanus. inhabitants apparently ~~many~~ numerous for "on the south or lee side of the island nothing can be seen along the shore but one continuous line of huts making it apparently one mass of buildings and to all appearance under one head or king." but we found actually divided into many districts. "The men generally are the most depraved ill looking cut throat I ever saw with villany stamped in their very eyes, and well do their looks portray their real character, for a greater set of thieves we have not had the honor to fall in with." "The young women and children male and female are decidedly the prettiest and finest formed creatures I

bush, while those that remained appeared struck with horror, and for the moment ~~was~~ ^{were} silent and motionless, but it had no other effect than to ~~heighten~~ heighten the fury and drive them ~~more~~ more frantic with rage. It could be plainly seen that the multitude was increasing from all quarters with armed men adding to the already/^{too}formidable body/ to attempt any kind of parley. The boats therefore advanced withing/ pistol shot in order and a general vollyy of musketry discharged upon the crowd. This unexpected shock caused a simultaneous rush or retreat, a number ~~seemed~~ ^{were seen} to fall, but only one (apparently a chief) who had been foremost in their ranks, and was ~~at~~ at the time up to his waist in the water covered with armor remained to prove the effect of our guns. Our people immediately landed and several more shots were fired at the slowly retreating enemy, but before the divisions had formed on the beach not a soul~~d~~ was to be seen old or young. The work of destruction soon began. The large town house ~~was~~ ^{was} soon in flames as well as the many beautiful habitations about it. thus our men dashed on with torch in hand from house to house till upwards of 300 huts lay in ashes as well as all they contained. In one of the huts was found a wounded native, who ~~our~~ our people dragged out rather than see him perish in the flames. He however crawled to a [? ?] hard by, stretched himself and expired. Another was found on the beach where he had fell at the first fire and other was shot down by one of our officers and several wounded who had remained in the town, & had not time to escape. On reaching the adjoining town Aita our party fell in with an old chief who approached them with outstretched arms and from his looks and actions ~~appeared~~ appeared really delighted with the misfortune of his neighbours. This old gentleman they put into a taro pit assuring him he would not be disturbed in his town. Having laid to the ground all in their way as

have ever seen, and I never was struck more forcibly with the beauty and form of any race of people than with the girls of Drummonds Island. They are quite small and slender wear their long hair neatly parted in front and hanging down their necks. The only fault I could find after a strict overhaul was their bad teeth." Due to chewing and eating tobacco, and constant use of molasses syrup. "The old women seem to alter their nature and become a different people. Instead of the beautiful expression and fine features they once had while young at the age of 25 or 30 they change into the most distressed haggard forms imaginable and at the age of 35 are worse than the men".

April 12th. "Several canoes came off from the island [Henderville ?] and some of the natives came on board appearing quite friendly and well acquainted with foreigners. They had nothing for sale but a few coconuts which we soon purchased. One of the visitors a good looking fellow who had nothing in his canoe worth selling, came on board determined to raise the wind, which he did in the following manner: first collecting around him a number of our men and officers, he commenced a war dance and song with such earnestness and at the same time good humour that when he had finished we could not help paying him for his trouble with a small piece of tobacco which he expected and in fact had hardly finished before he sung out tobacco tobacco//.

Having worn out his welcome on the Spar Deck he jumped below and commenced the same act on the Gun Deck; but as soon as he had started one of the large guns alongside him was fired, with the result that he jumped through the nearest port and was off.

April 14.

April 14

Surveying Halls Island. "Many canoes were seen and a number came near us but none could be enticed on board -- they appeared only to fear our Guns several of which were discharged a little while before."

April 16

[Off Woodles Island] "Several canoes came off and along side crowded with natives -- male and female -- among them was a white man by the name of Jno Kirby, who had resided on the island 18 months, and being desirous of leaving it Captain Hudson took him on board as a Supernumera. From this man we have been able to learn much of these people their habits ~~the~~ manners &c as well as to the Islands in the vicinity. The natives appear quite friendly and much more acquainted with whites than those of other islands.

April 18

... by our observations today we found that Marshalls, Cooks, Knox, and ~~the~~ Gilberts Islands are one and the same and that instead of being four separate and distinct islands as laid down by the french they are connected together by a reef over which the seas break heavily. There is however what would appear to be 3 separate islands at the distance of 5 miles, which has no doubt led the french navigator into the error.

April 24

[At Charlotte Island] 4 boats under Lt. Emmons landed at a small spot which we had designated as Ship Island. The Scientific Corps busied themselves in the usual way while the other officers were holding a parly with some 10 or 12 natives who were found on the other or inner side of the island. These folks appeared perfectly friendly and gave us to understand that the Island was thickly inhabited. Their

little village consisted of 8 or 10 huts constructed in the rudest manner and in the most miserable condition. None of the women were seen they having likely fled as usual. The little spot is likely one mile in circumference and thickly covered with pandanus and a few cocoa nuts. ... well in centre.

Natives told them that there was an island to the N & E about 30 miles away called Maica which they presumed to be Matthews.

Grounding of the schooner. Natives obviously intended to take her and were only foiled by gun fire and later refloating of vessel. [Shows Gilbertese custom of considering every ship aground as fair prize].

April 27

Off Marakei. At dusk 3 canoes approached and were hailed by Kirby but answered that "it was dark, the ship was a good way off the land, that the canoes leaked and finally that they were afraid; this we could plainly see". But by a promise of some Iron Hoop (the first thing they asked for) some came and said there was an island to the NW called Mogin, which they took to be Pitts.

April 29

[Off Butaritari] "When off the SW end upwards of 50 canoes were seen standing for us from all directions, and one by one as they reached us dropped astern till we had in tow the whole fleet. By one of these and on further examination canoes we were hailed and/to our great surprise saw a white man, who was dressed in the native fashion and so completely used up with the sun and weather that had he not spoken we would never have noticed him. Hove

to and paiked him up, at the same time gave tow lines to a nearby [?] squadron among which were the Royal family, from the gouty old King to his most dist. relation (no women) who all came on board save his Majesty, who was too fat and lazy to come up the side and contented himself with paddling around and looking at the ship at the same time keeping the run [?] of the various articles his people got from us, such as iron hoop, tobacco

Wood said they were rather light fingered "However they appeared very friendly, and honest, and evinced a degree of sociability and good breeding not before met with; indeed their countenances, manners and general appearance was sufficient to expel and doubts of their character.

"We are informed by Wood who has been upwards of 6 years on it (having run away from an English whlaing Brig) that during his sojurn with the people he had been treated exceedingly kindly, particularly by the King and family. during the 6 years one vessel had been seen, a small craft. He had given up the idea of ever leaving it again and ~~had~~ began to settle down, conforming with the manners, customs &c of the people."

.....

Journal of the "Wanderer",

by

John Webster

1851 - 1852

Notes from microfilm,
relating to the Gilbert Islands,
and Ocean Island (incomplete).

.....

JOHN WEBSTER'S JOURNAL

.....

Near sundown on the evening of the 28th we sighted an island of which we found no notice taken in any of our charts. There was just light sufficient to perceive it was a low island with a long reef on the windward side it appeared to be about 15 miles long narrow and lying nearly N. & S. We tacked and lay off and on all night intending to have a look at it in the morn but morning showed no island and for three days did we sail in a circle of about 30 miles in search of the mysterious land but without seeing anything bigger than a whale's back. We gave up the search and proceeded on our course we subsequently found that there was a strong current setting to the westward and this accounted for our losing the island we having drifted to the west during the night. I rather think the island was uninhabited.

On the 2nd August we crossed the Line Long. 180°, still carrying the trade winds today Mr. Boyd and I were in the magazine all forenoon filling ~~cartrages~~ cartrages for the guns and being all besmeared with powder we thought that we might as well have some fun

..... ..

5th August by observations at noon we ought to make land soon ~~at 1/2 p~~ lay to all night at daylight sent a man to the mast head to look out and Land O! was soon the cry, it was only visible for a time aloft and appeared like a dim shadow rising out of the waters gradually got more distinct until we could plainly see the ~~beaches~~ breakers, on the shore as we were all forward having a look at the land a number of white clouds (at least some of us thought so) appeared rising from the north end of the island but as they increased in numbers we thought they must

be breakers, Atwill went aloft and from the mast head pronounced them
 a fleet of canoes with sails and standing towards us. Not knowing
 but they might be hostile we unlashd the guns and ran them out and
 armed ourselves with cutlasses and in less than a quarter of an hour
 we were surrounded by a fleet of one hundred canoes full of the islanders
 who had put ~~th~~ their canoes on the same course we were running,
 numbers of them came alongside and in their eagerness to make fast to
 the Wanderer not a few got upset and were soon left astern ~~th~~ no
 assistance being rendered them by any of the other canoes I suppose
 they were accustomed to it as I noticed they were expert swimmers and
 no doubt would soon get their frail bark on even keel again. ~~th~~
 Seeing no weapons in their canoes and females and children with them
 we doubted not they were friendly and allowed several of them to make
 fast while the natives themselves were kept off the deck and allowed
 only to hang on the rail and shrouds but at last one got a footing on
 deck and another untill it was covered with visitors so that we could
 scarcely move. To get rid of them we took cutlasses and striking
 them gentle taps with the flat side we got rid of a number but it was
 in vain, ^{that we} ~~th~~ made demonstrations with the fair sex, if we raised the
 cutlasses pretending to strike they would stand their ground merely
 shrinking a little and look as much as to say Would you strike a lady.
 Their quiet inoffensive manner had much to say in their favour.
 A brisk trade soon commenced we abrted for cocoa nuts,
 shells and curiosities the natives displaying the greatest eagerness
 // for tobacco, a small piece of which would purchase anything they had.
 [The females] like their more civilized kindred, the females are
 fond of ornament which they make of shells and the shell of cocoanuts

consisting of bracelets, necklaces and these they would readily exchange for the least bit of tobacco. It became quite a passion with them the desire for that article they did not smoke it but ate it using a small bit at a time almost the only word of English they could say was "tabak". I noticed ~~a~~ several of both sexes afflicted with a disease resembling leprosy the whole body covered ~~d~~ with scales and disgusting to look at, a few were tattoed but it was not general. Those marked in this way had dark curved and straight lines on the thighs and sides.

The natives ~~by~~ by signs and some broken words of English gave us to understand there was a white man on the island and that worthy soon ~~came~~ paid us a visit. He was a runaway seaman but from the habit of going naked and exposure he was as dark as the natives but more of the colour of a half boiled lobster. From him I learned a few particulars regarding the natives. (as on p.27).

The crime of stealing (cocoa nuts) is visited by a severe punishment. The thief if found has to pay one thousand cocoa nuts for the one stolen ~~of~~ or land equivalent. A second (offered as slaves) A native without property is strangled without mercy, his own kindred assisting, the unfortunate slaves are only allowed one cocoa nut a day for subsistence, but are allowed to catch fish for their own and masters' use.

[Re their armour] As a defence they wear a cuirass of thickly plaited cord, made from the husk of the cocon nut as hard as wood reaching to the hips and at the back rising above the head, jacket and trousers of the same but flexible, and for the head porcupine fish, with the spikes sticking out. Some have only the cuirass, others the

jackets.

I was also informed that all the females alongside and on board ~~were~~ are slaves, the married women not being allowed to go on board ships. Adultery is punished with death to both parties.

[Timber for canoes made from drift wood].

..... The absence of underwood shows the nature of the soil, the surface is covered with broken white coral, by scraping with the foot to the depth of six inches black sand is seen intermixed, by seeing the surface alone one would be surprised how vegetation could exist. Their houses are

Around and encircling the building [the Maniaba] are several paths, formed by lines of coral rock.

The following are a few of their manners and customs which I learned from the European. Marriages are arranged by the parents. The father of the bride ... [as on p.30] ... these are necklaces, shell ornaments, whales teeth, etc. On decease ... [as on p.30].

[When passing Beru: p.33] With the dawn of day we saw canoes coming off. They followed us for six miles, but seeing us determined to be off they returned. We saw two capsize and no wonder; there was a heavy sea running, our lee guns being at times under water. Yet these tiny boats ventured out and carried sail, they manning their canoes beautifully.

..... [At Nonouti]. These islanders made an attempt to take a vessel two years ago but were repulsed with loss. The Flying Fox whaler was lost on the reef seven months ago. [see p.33].

[Off Tabiteuea: see p.36 after the sentence about the sea snakes]. This day a white man came off and told us he was one of the crew of the Flying Fox wrecked on Sydenham's Island & begged to be taken on board.

The poor fellow looked ill so in pity we took him. He gave us a letter from Bradley, the Ariel had been off the island the day before we arrived and had sailed for Ocean Island. The natives, as this man told us, finding the Ariel manned with blacks only had intended her capture which had caused Bradley to leave the island instead of waiting for us. It is satisfactory to have of him. We shipped another lad whom we called Jack. The first one is named Bango. They will require some drilling to make them sailors as they are naturally indolent, the climate no doubt being the cause and on these islands there is no exertion required to support life, nature doing everything in producing the coconut which is meat and drink.

The following account I have learned ~~from the~~ regarding this island ~~I have~~ from the white man and from my own observations. Taputeuwea is formed of a series of small islets [as on p.36]... ..[On Tabiteuea, p.37, after the last sentence but two about people being hacked to pieces with sharks teeth weapons] The following instances of cruelty were witnessed by the European before mentioned, a woman for stealing a bunch of pandanus fruit was buried alive, a man had his legs and arms cut off for stealing a coconut. Of course he died almost immediately after. He also witnessed one case of ~~sp~~ cannibalism: it is not a common practice with them, being the only case he ever heard of.

[P.38] A woman is considered a great heiress who has upwards of a hundred coconut trees.

U.S. National Archives
Letters rec'd by Sec. of the Navy from Commanders, 1804-1886
Microcopy No. 147. Roll No. 97. Jan. 1 - Apr. 30, 1872

Navy Department, Sec. office, rec'd May 17, 1872.

U.S.S. "Narragansett" (4th rate)
Pango-Pango. Tutuila. Samoan Islds.
Feby 24th 1872.

Hon. George M. Robeson.
Secretary of the Navy.
Washington, D.C.

Sir;

On the 17th inst, I heard of the arrival at Apia in Upolu of the notorious Wm H. Hayes. I at once proceeded to Apia reaching there next morning and detained Capt Hayes and his brig the "Leonora" until I could look into the allegations against him of cruizing unlawfully in the Micronesia islands with an armed vessel and crew, levying forced contributions on the natives.

Three days were consumed in making the examination at the end of which time I became convinced of the fact that although there was not sufficient evidence against Hayes to warrant my sending his vessel and himself to the United States ~~for~~ for trial yet there was enough evidence to warrant the belief that he is a Swindler and Scoundrel and a dangerous man.

The affidavits of six of his crew are herewith forwarded also a paper containing some of the allegations against him, most of which disappear when the evidence of his men (who have no reason to love him certainly) is carefully looked into.

His papers in the Consulate at Apia are regular he is the sole owner of the "Leonora" and flies the American flag under a bill of sale regularly attested in the Consulate at Shanghai. There is no evidence

to justify his seizure but I deemed there was enough to enable me to require him to settle before the U.S. Consular agent Mr I. M. Coe the matter between himself and his crew - to discharge and pay off those of his men who declined from fear of further bad treatment to sail any longer with him. - On his doing so to the satisfaction of Mr Coe and myself I released him from further detention, but I should hope that some civil proceedings could be had against him for the numerous frauds and swindles - His latest is in regard to a charter to carry rice from Saigon to Hong Kong. - I remained four days at Apia verifying the position which corresponds nearly with that of Captain Richards R.N. (but is one third of a mile farther to the West in Longitude) and three and a half miles farther to the West than the position given by the U.S. Expedition in 1839. On the 23rd we returned to this place to complete the re-survey of the harbor and will await the arrival of the Steamer from Auckland when unless the Honolulu Steamer should bring orders to the contrary, I shall proceed to complete cruize marked out for me by Rear Admiral Winslow, proceeding hence to the Phoenix and Guano Islands thence to the Gilbert and Marshall Islands.

I much fear that we have so much work before us that we may run short of coal and bread before being able to proceed to Australia in which case it may be necessary to make the Sandwich Islands for supplies. Among the coral islands the ship requires banked fires for she is too leewardly to be safe in the light baffling winds and strong currents there so common.

The health of every one on board is good and I am happy to say that the men enlisted at Honolulu are excellent material for a fine ship's company,

far better men than we left New York with.

Very respectfully

(Signed) Richard W. Meade

Commander. U.S.N.

U.S. Ship "Narragansett" (4th rate)

Apia Upolu.
Samoa Islands.

James N. Robinson; colored, a native of Norfolk, Virginia U.S. of America being duly sworn testifies as follows: that he is Boatswain of the American Brig "Leonora" Capt W.H. Hayes, that he joined the "Leonora" at Bankok Siam the 24th of April 1871 agreeing to serve for twelve months at \$20 per month. That he has received about \$103 - the number of the crew when he joined was sixteen (16) - the vessel had two nine pounder guns mounted when he joined - she had also ten or twelve (10) or (12) Snyder riles - a considerable lot of powder about (20) or (30) twenty or thirty kegs - shot we got afterwards - after leaving Ascension mounted four (4) Guns more - she had also a number of muskets, Bayonets and cutlasses - while at Apaiang, was ordered by Capt Hayes to load the guns - I loaded two (2) nine Pounders with powder. know nothing whatever about collecting an alleged debt Boats crew went on shore unarmed while at Apaiang. Do not know of any force being used to threaten the natives ^{at} ~~of~~ any island where the vessel called

The treatment of the crew at the hands of Capt Hayes has been very bad knocking down kicking and flogging them. One of our crew was landed against his will at Ascension - Mr Nichols was landed with his own consent at Middle Island, Parrie Group - Since I have been on board the vessel Capt Hayes has treated me very badly. He chased me round decks with a belaying pin, knocked me down and used the end of a rope on me.

(Signed) James N. Robinson.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this twelfth day of February A.D. 1872 on board the U.S. Ship "Narragansett".

(Signed) Richard W. Meade
Commander U.S. Navy Commanding

George F. Benson, a native of West Brooklyn New York, being duly affirmed, testifies as follows:

That he is acting as Interpreter of the American Brig "Leonora" Capt W.H. Hayes, that he joined the vessel at Strong's island November 1871 that the number of her crew were sixteen that she had at the time of his joining two guns mounted and from 4 to 6 in the Hold as ballast, also a little powder and some 20 or 30 Cartridges, saw no shot or shell; do not know if Capt Hayes while at Apaiang used any threats or force to compel the payment of an alleged debt due to Capt Pease of the late ~~brig "Pioneer"~~ brig "Pioneer"; Do know that he went on shore to settle up the affairs of Messrs Glover Dow & Co left unsettled by Capt Pease, the circumstance of this settlement were as follows:

when we went to Apaiang I went on shore and made inquiries of the Missionaries about the state of affairs of Apaiang, the Missionary (I dont know his name) replied to me that they had been fighting in Tarawa, he asked who I was and where the vessel came from also asked who was the master of the vessel and what his business was. I replied that he had come to the islands to settle up Capt Pease's affairs with the King, he asked me what the affairs were, I replied that it concerned trade landed by Capt Pease. His reply to me was "the King is dead". His son is acting in his stead. I then asked him on board, he came on board with his wife and family also two other Companions of his, Missionaries also. They came on board to purchase ladies hats and shoes. Capt Hayes his boats crew and myself went ashore about seven o'clock next morning for the purpose of a settlement with the King. Captain asked the King what remained of the property landed with his father by Capt Pease. The King replied that there were ten or twelve kegs of powder - twenty or

thirty Muskets a few Caps and somewhere about five hundred musket balls. He said to the Captain that he would deliver this up and would try and pay him either in Dried Nuts or Coconut-oil. The Captain told me to ask him if he had any money. He replied "We have no money". The Missionary Mr H. Aea said to me "They have money but they hide it from the Captain". I then told the Captain what Aea, the Missionary, said. The Captain said to me "I wish you would tell them if they've got the money to pay me five hundred dollars I will call it square"; the King then replied "where should we get money from" I spoke to him saying "I have heard from Capt Verney of the Brig "Tyra" a Sydney vessel, that you had money - the Captain says if they have money I would like to have them pay up; they must make Coconut oil or pay me in dried nuts. Kaibunare (the highest chief) replied "I do not think they have any money". The Captain, his boats crew and myself then went from the Missionaries house to the Kings house to see the balance of trade, remaining with the King belonging to Messrs Glover Dow & Co of Shanghai. We saw several muskets (11 or 12 kegs of powder, about 400 musket balls 2 or 3000 of Percussion caps. This trade was all brought to the ~~Missionaries house~~ Missionary's house. Capt Hayes said to me "Examine those guns, those that are bad I will not receive from them as I heard ~~they~~ that they were delivered to them in good order. Joseph, the Interpreter for the Missionary there, spoke to Capt Hayes saying I will see if they have any money. Capt Hayes then replied if they do not pay me in two months time I shall go to Shanghai and the consequence will be that a vessel of war will settle this difficulty. The Captain then went out with this Joseph and after a short walk they came back. The result was the Captain received five hundred dollars in gold, about half what was due.

Do not know of any threat or force being used while on board the "Leonora" would be more likely to know of it than anyone else had any threat been used. There were never any use made of the Armament of the Brig for the purpose of threatening or overawing the natives of any of the islands where the vessel called with a view of compelling the payment of any money alleged ~~to~~ to be due to Capt Hayes. The same crew is on board now as in November last with the exception of four, three ran away at Ap~~ia~~ia and one was transferred to the "Neva". The crew received the ordinary treatment on board merchant vessels. Do not know of Capt Hayes ill-treating or flogging any of his crew. Have a verbal agreement with Capt Hayes to pay me \$30 a month and find me for my services as Interpreter.

(Signed) George F. Benson

Affirmed to and subscribed before me this nineteenth day of February
A.D. 1872 on board the U.S. Ship "Narragansett"

(Signed) Richard W. Meade

Commander U.S. Navy Commanding.

U.S. Ship "Narragansett" 4th rate
Apia Upolu.
Samoa Islands.

John Anthon, colored, a native of Malta being duly sworn, testifies as follows: that he is a Seaman on board the American Brig "Lenora" Capt. W.H. Hayes, that he joined her at Bankok, Siam, about 11 months since agreeing for the voyage to Hongkong wither the Brig was then supposed to be bound, that he agreed to serve for \$72 per month, but the vessel did not go to Hongkong and has been detained against his agreement, has received but a dollar and a half and about 20 lbs of Tobacco at \$1.00 pr lb and about 16 yards of Cloth at 50 cents pr yard, the number of crew were 15 men all hands, she had two Cannon mounted at first, when he joined and six afterwards, ten rifles, twelve kegs of Powder and some shot for Guns, do not know if the Captain threatened the natives of any of the islands, while he been on board ship the Captain treated the crew very badly, flogged them and abused them, when the Captain went on shore at Apaiang he was at work below in the Hold, Mr Nichols was put on shore ~~at~~ at Middle island where there is only one man living, do not know if he went willingly or not.

his

John X Anthon

mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this twentieth day of February A.D.
1872 on board the U.S. Ship "Narragansett".

Richard Meade
Commander U.S. Navy Commanding

U.S. Ship "Narragansett" (4th rate)
Apia Upolu. Samoan Islands.

Martin Barrett a native of Hartford Conn. U.S. of America, being duly sworn testifies as follows:

That he is cooper of the American Brig "Leonora" Capt. Hayes. That he joined the vessel in November 1871 at Strongs Island, that at the time he joined the number of the crew was 16 (sixteen). Eight (8) were Americans or English the rest Malays or Portuguese - that the Brig had four (4) cannon mounted and shortly after he joined she mounted two more - two more cannons were in the Hold, she had twelve (12) Snyder rifles in the cabin companion-way. Don't know how much powder she had on board but know she had a quantity. Do not know if Capt. Hayes while at Apaiang and collected an alleged debt for Capt. Pease of the late Brig "Pioneer" - everything about the ~~matter~~ matter was carried on in the native tongue. Do not know of Capt. Hayes threatening to use any force against the King at Apaiang - know of some money being brought on board at Apaiang by Capt. Hayes - saw him count it - don't know the amount - don't know where it came from.

The armament of the Brig was sold in different places - ~~three~~ three (3) cannon were sold at Apaiang, ~~two~~ two at Arnua, one at Mille, two at Apia, the twelve rifles were sold at Apia - do not know of any use being made of the arms on board the "Leonora" for the purpose of threatening or overawing the natives of the islands where the vessel called with a view of compelling the payment of any money alleged to be due to Capt. Hayes.

The same crew is on board the Brig now as when he joined except five (5) - two (2) of these men were discharged, viz, Frederick George and Chas Howard and three deserted at Apia - these three were Malays - Capt.

Hayes treated the crew very badly assaulting them at the wheel - knocking down and kicking them.

Signed martin ~~Barreto~~ Barreto

[Sworn to, etc as before]

U.S. Str. "Narragansett" 4th rate

Apia Upolu Samoan Islands.

Manuel Antonio, colored, a native of Cap~~e~~ De Verde island, being duly sworn, testifies as follows:

That he is a Seaman on board the American Brig "Leonora" Capt. Wm. H Hayes, that he joined the "Leonora" at Shanghai 15 months since, agreeing to serve for 12 months for \$16 pr month, that he has been detained three months and a half over his time, that he asked the Captain for his dischargo on his arrival at Apia, Captain refused to give it to him, that he asked the Captain for permission to see the Consul, the Captain told him his time was not up till the vessel got back to Shanghai but didn't care if ~~he~~ it was 18 months, on asking to see the Consul, the Captain struck him. Received since leaving Shanghai 29 Twenty nine dollars in cash and some clothing and other articles; have not received the full amount of my wages, when he joined the vessel had a crew of (15) Fifteen men, she had two Nine pounders and about 10 or 12 rifles and ~~(nineteen)~~ (19) Nineteen kegs of powder, at Apaiang she had four guns mounted on deck, do not know of anything about the Captain the natives of any islands where we called; Mr Nichols was put on shore at Middle island but do not know if he went willingly or not, but saw him crying when he went over the side, all hands on board were badly treated and poorly fed the Captain oftentimes knocking down men and kicking them and flogging them with a rope's end which he kept twisted up in the house aft, do not know if the Boats crew or the Captain while at Apaiang. While on the voyage from Swatow to Saigon the second Mate stole from the hold some packages of Umbrellas and stowed them forward, saw the Captain use some of them afterwards. There was some

liquor taken ~~afterwards~~ also, about 3 or 4 dozen bottles, in May to June, while at Saigon, the Brig was chartered to carry a cargo of rice to Hongkong, but instead of delivering it ^{at} ~~to~~ Hongkong, Capt. Hayes went to Hainan and transferred some to a junk bound for Hongkong, the "Leonora" did not go to Hongkong; at Hainan Capt Hayes sold some rice and used the rest about 4 or 500 bags to feed the crew, My opinion is he defrauded the shipper.

Signed Manuel Antonio

[Sworn to, etc. as before]

U.S. Ship "Narragansett" (4th rate)
Apia. Upolu. Samoan Group.

John P. Eldridge a native of Barnstable, Massachusetts, U.S. of America, being duly sworn testifies as follows:

That he is mate of the American Brig "Leonora" Capt. Hayes that he joined the Leonora in Sept 1871 at the Island of Ascension. That the number of crew at the time he joined was thirteen (13). ~~7/4~~ That the Brig had armament eight cannons. 2 being nine Pounders and six smaller Guns. She also had ten (10) muskets and sword bayonets and ten or fifteen kegs of powder on board that subsequently ten or fifteen more kegs of Powder were taken on board at an island where the Brig called, that while in the "Leonora" Capt Hayes went to Apaiang in the Gilbert or Kingsmill Group and demanded the payment of an alleged debt due to Capt. Benjamin Pease of the late Brig "Pioneer" (now known as the "Leonora") believed this debt to be twelve hundred dollars but don't know. The Capt went on shore and demanded the debt, finally understood that it was settled by the King agreeing to return back part of the trade and the balance to be paid in coconuts. Do not know if any threat of force being used all this business was transacted on shore, if any threat had been used should not have known it as Capt Hayes was not in the habit of telling me what he did. The armament of the Brig was disposed of in different places - two cannon were sold in Annu in the Marshall Group, three were sold in Apaiang in the Kingsmill Group, one in Mille and two in Apia in Samoa, that while on board the "Leonora" there was never any use made of the Arms&c for the purpose of threatening or overawing the natives at the islands where the vessel called with a view of compelling t^he payment of any monies alleged to be due to Capt Hayes. Do not know if Capt Hayes used any threats. The same crew is on board the Brig now as

when he joined with the exception of three men who have been discharged. The three men discharged were Frederick George A.B. discharged from the "Leonora" and put on board the "Neva" Capt. B. Pittman, the "Neva" being a tender to the "Leonora". Chas. Howard (O.S.) discharged and put on shore at Mille as trader, do not remember the third mans name - he was the sailmaker, he was put on board an English vessel called the "Ida" from Sidney. Since joining the "Leonora" the treatment of the crew by Capt. Hayes has been very rough: he at times knocking men down and kicking them. Remember hearing of Capt Hayes flogging a passenger Oct. 8th 1871 did not see the flogging but heard the Captain speak about it and saw the man in irons.

Signed John P. Eldridge.

[Sworn to etc. as before].

Allegations against W.H. Hayes.

Master of the American Brig "Leonora".

late the "Pioneer".

late the "Waterlily".

1st Of cruising among the Micronesian Islands with his vessel armed and equipped in an unlawful manner. [Marginal Note: Not borne out by the evidence].

2nd Of collecting unlawfully under a threat of force certain sums of money from the native chiefs of the Gilbert or Kingsmill Group. [Marginal Note: Not borne out by the evidence].

3rd Of treating certain of his crew with great cruelty and brutality, detaining them over the time they had agreed to serve, depriving them of their wages and of the chances of obtaining redress for their alleged grievances and maltreating them when they applied for redress. [Marginal Note: Partially borne out by the evidence].

4th Of cruelly and inhumanly landing certain of his crew on remote and uninhabited islands of the Pacific Ocean against their will and in contempt of law. [Marginal Note: Not borne out by the evidence. Nichols left at Bonin Isld at his own request. Landed not far from one of the principal settlements].

The vessel cleared from Saigon under charter for Hongkong with a cargo of rice but Capt Hayes under alleged stress of weather and leaking went to Bangkok where he sold part of the rice (about \$3500 worth) belonging to Messrs Bau Soon & Co. of Saigon and repaired his vessel with the proceeds; then instead of going to Hongkong and settling his "average" went to Hainan where he put part of the cargo (about 2080 bags) on board of a Chinese Junk for Hongkong, kept 4 or 500 bags for himself and from Hainan went to

the Bonin Islands, thence to Micronesia.

Refer also to pages 141, 142, 143, 149, 150 and 151 of "Further Correspondence respecting the Deportation of South Sea Islanders" presented to the house of Commons by command of Her Majesty in pursuance of their address dated Februry 1st 1871 [Marginal Note: Under the English Flag] for Capt Hayes' conduct in kidnapping twenty natives of the Danger Islands (all of whom subsequently died) for which said Hayes was arrested and delivered to H.B.M. Consul I.C. Williams at Apia in the Samoan Islands, from whence he made his escape in the Brig "Pioneer" now the "Leonora" commanded by the notorious Capt. Pease.

Report of stores and cargo. Brig "Leonora"
Feby 19 1872 Apia Harbour.

Ballast. Stone 50 tons. Iron mostly scrap 25 tons.

Water tanks. Of from 150 to 400 gals capacity.

Ship carries about 1100 gals water.

Anchors. 2 in the hold; 3 down.

Hawsers. 3 of hemp, small and all old.

Casks. 30 to 40 barrels (31 tuns to a barrel).

Sails. 1 suit topsails, 2 coarsco [?] bent, 3 topgallant sails.

5 staysails. 1 bent main. 2 spankers 1 bent, and 3 head sails
bent.

Boats. 2 whale boat shape.

Cargo

Balance of copra (dried cocoanuts) and cocoanut oil being discharged,
having been sold.

12 casks turtle and shark oil, in all 600 gallons.

Tobacco 400 lbs - 100 lbs plug - 300 lbs twist.

One chest open - containing combs, needles and thread, scissors, knives,
scent water &c valued at about \$10.

One chest closed containing also combs, needles, thread, scissors and
knives chintz and cotton stuffs - valued not ascertained.

On transom in cabin - 600 yards of unbleached cotton stuff, 10 pieces of
chintz.

In cabin

One medicine chest. Charts (not examined). 2 clocks. 1 chronometer.

1 sextent. 1 box drawing instruments & several Nautical works - also

1 aneroid barometer. 1 spy glass.

Provisions

Provisions

A small quantity of flour in bags - rice, coffee, bread, and beef.

In cabin about 40 small shot.

[?] Yates, Lieut.

R.W. Meade, commanding.

U.S. Consulate
Bangkok Siam.
April 13th 1871.

Capt Hayes Brig Leonora

Dear Sir

I enclose you "Form" of your letter to licensed ~~A/~~ Auctioneer Mr Sandborg.
Sign this and keep it for me. Copy it and send your copy at once to Mr
Sandborg signed by you. You must not lose any of these papers as they
are money and I must have them to supply with evidence for your safety.

(Signed) I.W. Partridge,
U.S. Consul.

[Copied by Captain's clerk on "Narragansett"].

July 15th 1871

~~Copy~~ Copy

Capt. W.M. Hayes

Sir

Seeing of know opportunity of getting an interview with
I take the liberty of adressing you thus and hearing we are in the vicinity
of Faries group I ask your permission of stoping on Kaler's [?] Island if
it is agreable to the settlers as I am off duty and you do not care to
have me turn too and I am very uncomfortable. I have heard and mistrusted
that you have heard a great many things that there is no truth in at all
and as you are prejudiced against me I do not care to have anything to
say in the matter at all. - And about the Oil, Sir, I sent the Bowswin
with ~~five~~ 4 or 5 men down to stow it, they were down there 7 or 8 hours
it was during the gale the heads were stove in, as soon as I discovered it
I told him to have the heads stowed so the cattle would not kick them in
alltogether and through some sand on the shore, the oil washed through
cracks and told him not to say anything to you about it as I intended to
tell you myself as soon as I saw a favoyrable opportunity. And Sir I have
felt know animosity towards you since we had that trouble if, ~~if~~ if you ~~copy~~
consent to allow me to stop on the Island I should like a little tobacco and
powder.

I remain your obedient
(Signed) H.M. Nichols

[Certified, ect, as before].

Original

2.

Enclosure No 1 in Chain Letter No 2216
19th August 1872.

3. The ship being calm and fine, disembarked at General Quarters, firing at a target, and in the evening went to Night Quarters Report of Proceedings.

4. From the 26th to the 28th, calms and variable light winds, and Ship made very HM Ship Barrosa, at Hong Kong.

No 34 of 1872.

4 Enclosures

at the same time, a very heavy swell from the N.W. From the 1st to the 5th of April, winds N.E. and Eastly, with frequent squalls of wind and rain. At noon of the 5th we

25th July 1872.

Sir, 24 miles to windward of Cornwallis Islands, but did not sight them.

I have the honor to inform you, that in compliance with your orders of the 6th March, 1872, Her Majestys Ship under my command, being provisioned and coaled to the fullest extreme, left Yokohama on the 19th March at 1.20 pm. At 5.15 the same day, the Screw was raised and we proceeded under sail.

At 1 pm of the 7th, made Ailes Island on starboard bow, and at 2.30 observed men on the beach with a flag,

2. Until the 25th experienced very baffling winds and heavy squalls with much rain, mostly from the SW and Westward; at one time reduced to ^{double} reefs and reefed courses, the Ship being very wet and uncomfortable.

John Wickeroid, A.B.

Vice Admiral,

Peter Lewis, A.B.

Charles, F,A, Shadwell, CB F.R.S.

Otto Eisenhart, ord.

Commander in Chief,

etc ----- etc ----- etc -----

Ah-fou, Steward.

3. The 26th being calm and fine, exercised at General Quarters, firing at a target, and in the evening went to Night Quarters firing blank cartridges.

4. From the 26th to the 28th, calms and variable light winds, and Ship made very little progress, and had, at the same time, a very heavy swell from the N.W. From the 1st to the 5th of April, winds N.E. and Eastly, with frequent squalls of wind and rain. At noon of the 5th we were 24 miles to windward of Cornwallis Islands, but did not sight them.

6th April. At 10.45 observed land, and at noon passed about 18 miles to windward of Dawson Islands, they are very low, and had a heavy surf breaking round them as far as we could see. F.E.H. Milne, master of the schooner "Limbas" offered

5. At 1 pm of the 7th, made Ailee Island on starboard bow, and at 2.30 observed men on the beach with a flag, tacked, hove to and sent a boat in. After some difficulty the cutter reached the beach, and found there the five shipwrecked men late of the British barque "Corypheus" namely,

John Wickeroi, A.B.

Peter Lewis, A.B.

Otto Eisnhert, ord.

Ah-fou, Steward.

and Ah-Sing, Cook.

They were all brought on board with their kits. With the exception of Peter Lewis, they were all in good health, although considerably weakened from want of proper provisions. They stated they had been most kindly treated by the natives during their stay of eight months.

I regret that I was unable to see the King and the other natives, to thank them personally for their kindness, but it was not prudent to keep the Ship so close to the coral reefs, we had seen round the Island, which were so extensive that we could not see their extremes, and at 7 pm, we stood off from the Island.

I may here mention that afterwards when at Ebon Island, Mr. F.E.H. Milne, master of the schooner "Iimalas" offered to take any thing to Ailee Island, I wished, an offer I gladly accepted, and a present of tobacco, clothing, etc, from the Shipwrecked men and Ships Company, with a letter (a copy of which I enclose) will be forwarded to the Head Chief of the Ailee Islands by him. Mr Milne informed me that there is an anchorage in the Lagoon of this Island available for small vessels. The point we touched at appeared correctly laid down on the chart.

6. After leaving Ailee Island, bad weather set in with heavy squalls of wind and rain, and so thick that land was not visible at any distance. At 9 pm of the 10th, during a light wind, the current had set the Ship rather close to the Calvert Islands, and as the reefs extend off a long distance, and are little known, steam was got up to stand off clear of them. At 1 am of the 11th it came on to blow very hard from the N.E, with a heavy sea, which proved I was justified in steaming off a coast so beset with reefs. At 8 am of the 12th a heavy squall from the E.N.E. struck the Ship, then very heavy rain for some hours.

7. At 10 am of the 15th sighted Pedder Island, at 3.15 "Hove to" to communicate with a canoe; the natives in her were very friendly and informed me that there were some white men on shore, so I decided upon waiting till the morning and then to send a boat in for information. At 9.30 the next morning a large canoe came alongside, and a white man (an Italian) came on board. He informed me he had been on the Island for five years, he was brought here in the "Blossom" brig, Captain George Pease, from Honolulu and that she had been sold to Captain Charles Howard. He was collecting oil and cocoa nuts for Messrs Howard and Hayes: the latter had been here six weeks before in the "Water Lily",

and he expected him back in a week or so. On questioning him concerning Hayes, he appeared very cautious and hesitated on his answers, and very much wished to know our reasons for visiting these Islands, as no man of war had been there before, and he also tried to learn whether we were in search of Hayes, and thus, I suspected, he knew a great deal more of Hayes, and his illegal acts, than he cared to divulge.

A great many natives, he informed me, had been deported from the Islands at times, but he did not give any definite answers as to who were the kidnapers or what kind of vessels they had, and I doubt very much if his information on the subject could be relied on.

These Islands extend about 60 miles, and are much larger than is laid down on the chart, and include the Daniel Islands, which are not a separate Group as shown on the chart. Coconuts and Bread fruit only, are grown here. The natives were friendly and wandered about the Ship freely.

8. At 10.50 am made sail for Bonham Islands. At 8.40 of the 17th sighted them on Port bow, steered for what we judged to be the entrance between the reefs, but on closing it cautiously under steam, no passage could be seen into the Lagoon or canoes coming out to us. At 11.30 am a heavy squall of wind and rain came on, and so dense, that nothing could be

discovered, we were therefore obliged to steam off the land, also reef was seen to leeward. The bad weather continuing, at 4.45, set double reefed topsails to stand off the night. During the 18th and 19th the same bad weather and generally very thick, accordingly kept well off the Islands. No observations could be obtained.

9. April the 20th. At 6 am observed a brig on starboard bow, 7.20 Hauled up in chase of her. At 10.30 she tacked and made her number, the "Susannah" North German, from the Caroline Islands to Freemantle, Australia. At 11.30 the wind having fallen light, got steam up in two boilers. At 5 pm stopped under lee of brig and sent Lieutenant Hallett on board, he returned at 6, with the following account of her.

The Captain gave his name as John Peters and produced certificates in German of competency as master, and several other official papers, dated at Hamburgh, relative to ownership, etc, from which it appeared that the brig was owned by a firm of the name of Godafroy of Hamburgh, she had called at the Cape and thence on, but the Captain could produce no papers of any port beyond Hamburgh; by his log no information could be obtained until the 24th, a fine clear Cape. Observed land at 10.15 am, steamed along the land

The Captains statement (given in broken English) was as follows, - he was bound from the Pellew Islands to the Samoa Islands, with a cargo of dry cocoa nuts and oil, that he had on his way touched at Uap Island, to procure geological specimens, and afterwards to Oulleai Island to see about a shipwrecked Schooner, whose captain and crew had been murdered by natives. He had on board 15 passengers (natives) 11 of whom he had obtained at Uap Island, where they were starving and he was conveying them to Samoa at their own request, the remaining 4 he picked up at Oulleai Island, they had originally been passengers in the wrecked Schooner. He had no papers concerning them or his cargo. From his ^{track} back on the chart it appeared that he had not come from the Pellew Islands direct but from some place farther South. From this information and from the Captains conversation and frequent reference to "agents" at different Islands, it is apparent, that he is engaged in the cocoa nut and oil trade, and having more accommodation than requisite for his crew, he employs the vacant space for conveying what natives he can get at the various Islands, for the Coolie trade, but whether legally obtained or not, there were no means of ascertaining.

10. Squally and thick weather until the 24th, a fine clear day. Observed land at 10.15 am, steamed along the land and impressed upon him the necessity of warning his people not

trying to find an entrance through the reefs. Being unsuccessful at 6.30 put the ships head off the land for the night. On the 25th heavy rain all day. On the 26th, sent a boat away to survey. At 6 pm the boat returned with a white man and two natives, who knew the passage in. At 8 am of the 27th we were close to the entrance of the passage, abreast of which we were yesterday, but the reefs so overlap each other, that the passage cannot be made out from seaward, unless previously known. This passage has rather a sharp turn in it. Anchored off Jelluge Island in 13 fathoms. Found here a small schooner belonging to Capelle and Co., of Ebon Island, in charge of Captain F.E.H. Milne, a trader in coconuts, oil, etc. He visits all the Islands of the Marshall Group, and is well acquainted with the passages into the Lagoons, and also the native languages. He informed me that Hayes was in the Group, in the "Leonora" late "Water Lily", and gave me papers relative to the stealing of a French Schooner by Hayes, and which schooner was at Mille, Mulgrave Islands (Enclosure No. 2).

Captain Milne agreed to come with us, as pilot and interpreter, it being impossible to find the entrances to the Lagoons, and our way to the Stations, without this assistance.

The king, Loarra, a most intelligent man, came on board, and I impressed upon him the necessity of warning his people not

on any account to board vessels that might visit the Islands, unless known to them, he stated that they were afraid to board ships, and that that was their reason for not sending a canoe out to us on the 17th. Loarra is a Protestant, and with many of the other natives attended Divine Service on board.

There was a small "dandy" rigged vessel amongst the reefs on our arrival, she hoisted, what we thought to be Portugese colours, but which, Captain Milne informed me are the new Fiji colours, I rather suspect she was on a kidnapping expedition, from her movements to avoid us, she did not however, take any natives from Bonham, she went to sea in the night.

At 2 pm of the 28th, weighed and proceeded under steam through the S.E. passage, it is almost straight and with deep water, 9 or 10 fathoms were the least soundings obtained in the cutter. There are two other passages to the N.E.

11. I found that the Mulgrave or Mille, and not the Bonham Group, is the rendezvous of Hayes, so I decided upon going there in search of him, and for information.

12. During the night of the 28th, bad weather set in with heavy rain and E.S.E. winds, and we were carried to the Northward, which caused me to visit the Arrowsmith or Magero At 1.20 pm of the 4th May, left the anchorage for the Mulgrave

Group, before Mulgrave. Anchored in the Lagoon at 7 pm of May 3rd, having the day previous experienced very heavy squalls, ship under treble reefs. The natives were so frightened at seeing a ship come in under steam and against the wind, that none of them would come near until the next morning, when Mr Milne, went ashore and persuaded them to come off, several did, including three of the chiefs, to whom I pointed out the object of our visit, namely, to ascertain whether there were any vessels round the Group employed in kidnapping natives, and that we had every intention of stopping that traffic. They had, they informed me no such vessels cruising about the Group, nor had any of the natives been stolen. I warned them of strange vessels and not to allow the natives to board them, and I made known to them that our Government was resolved to put down the "native stealing".

These chiefs were fine intelligent men, and appeared to have a great respect for Queen Victoria. Messrs Godafroy have a station here for collecting dry cocoa nuts, with a white man in charge, he had no information to give. A large German ship belonging to the above firm touched here a few months ago. There is no resident missionary here.

At 1.20 pm of the 4th May, left the anchorage for the Mulgrave

Group, and at 3.30 passed out of the Lagoon, the entrance being 10 miles from the anchorage.

13. At daybreak of the 6th May sighted the Mulgrave Islands, and at 10, passed through the passage into the Lagoon, and anchored in 17 fathoms off the German Station. Found here the American Schooner "Emily", which Captain Milne stated was the vessel stolen from Monsieur Lechat. Captain Hayes had left this Group only the day previously, for Arrowsmith, Pedder and other Islands, to the Northward. Sent Lieutenant Hallett to board the schooner, he brought back the following particulars concerning her. He found on board two Americans, one in charge but not Captain of her, the captain being with Hayes in the "Leonora", the other, whose name appeared to be Alford, informed Lieutenant Hallett that he was Vice Consul at Samoa, and had come on a trip for his health with Hayes. Lieutenant Hallett on asking for papers, was shown a bill of sale dated October, 1871, between Captain Hayes and Monsieur Lechat, witnessed by two men named Warne and Pillman, by which the schooner became the property of Hayes, who had changed her name from "Neva" to "Emily". Appended to his bill of sale, was a document registering the vessel in the Consular Court of the United States, at Samoa, under the name of the "Emily",

signed by a Mr Coe, and duly sealed with the official vessel
 Consular Seal. On making further enquiries Lieutenant Hallett
 was informed by Mr Alford, that Hayes had been to Samoa in
 the "Leonora" and had then registered the "Emily" (without
 her having ever been there) and had now returned to these were
 Islands to procure a cargo for both vessels, and was to go
 back to Samoa in a few days taking the schooner with him.
 At the same time he had registered another vessel, the "Pearl",
 but she has never appeared, and is supposed to have been lost,
 so that the papers still remain in his hands. as nuts; and
 Although Captain Hayes' name appears on all the papers, ce,
 Lieutenant Hallett was informed that the vessels were the
 property of Glover and Co., of Shanghai, a firm he knew to associates.
 have been bankrupt two years ago. sealing" might be stopped.
 An Englishman named Lowther came on board, and made a
 statement of grievances against Hayes (Enclosure 3), who had
 robbed him of his oil and trading stock, under the pretence
 that the trade of the Island belonged to Glover and Co. ive
 On the 7th anchored off Mille, or the Kings Island. The king
 and a Hawaiian missionary with their wives, and other natives,
 came on board; they informed me, through Captain Milne, that
 slavers had been twice to Knox Island, (one of the Mulgrave
 Group) the last time two months ago only, ten natives were

Hayes, as they could not substantiate any charge against him. taken the first time and eight the second. The first vessel had two masts the second three. These natives were kidnapped in this way; Canoes went off with fruit, cocoa nuts, etc., for which a high price was given, this brought more natives off to the ship, and when a good many were on board, they were seized and put below, one old man escaped the last time by jumping overboard. They did not know what vessels they were, where they came from, or where bound.

They also informed me Hayes threatened to seize the king and flog him, if he did not bring him oil and cocoa nuts; and Hayes' mate Pillman took the king's daughter away by force, and still had her in his possession.

The king appeared a good deal afraid of Hayes and his associates. He much wished that the "native stealing" might be stopped. Left these Islands at noon of the 7th for the Ebon Group.

14. I may here state that the men in charge of the "Emily", said that the United States sloop of war, "Narragansett", took Captain Hayes at Samoa, and kept him prisoner for five days, from reports made by missionaries as to his carrying away natives from the Islands and firing on them. The "Leonora" was searched, but neither guns or arms of any kind were found, and in the end the United States Authorities had to release

Hayes, as they could not substantiate any charge against him. I believe the "Narragansett" is coming North for the purpose of collecting further evidence against Hayes visiting the different Groups of islands on her way.

15. I very much doubt if the "Leonora" is a regularly registered United States vessel, as I am informed she has still the name "Water Lily", registered number, and tonnage, cut in the main hatch, and "Water Lily" of Aberdeen on her bell, and that Hayes when master, only of her, ran her on shore on some out of the way part of the Gulf of Siam, without damaging her, then wrote to the owners offering some small sum for the wreck, which they, thinking she would be of no more service, accepted. Hayes then fitted her out, disposed of the cargo, and brought her down for trading amongst the Marshall, Gilbert and other Islands, where he was first known late in 1871. I will not however vouch for the entire correctness of these statements. A description of the "Leonora" is given in Enclosure 4.

16. Sighted Ebon Islands at daybreak of the 10th May, having experienced light winds since leaving Mulgrave. Whilst steaming through the passage into the Lagoon, a heavy squall struck the ship, which, assisted by a five knot current carried the port bow against the reef, she came off however at once;

I remained anchored in the passage till the tide had slackened, when I proceeded and anchored in the Lagoon at noon.

Mr Capelle, agent for Godafroy, came on board, he has resided here 10 years. He informed me that many vessels have been among the Groups during the last year or two, enticing natives on board, and then confining them below. The "Midge" a topsail schooner, visited this Group 6 or 8 months ago, looking for natives, she obtained four or five from Strongs Island. Two other small vessels came here with the "Midge", but Mr Capelle had no record of their names, and no colours were shown. The kidnappers come to these Northern Islands, mostly for women, who are much better looking than the women of the more Southern Groups, they fetch at the Fiji Islands twenty pounds a head, and are much more profitable to the slavers than the men.

On asking Mr Capelle about the North German brig "Sussanah", belonging to his firm, he stated that he could only account for these natives being on board, by knowing that their agent at Samoa, Mr Theodore Webber, who is also North German consul, has some plantations on the Island, and he supposes that the Captains of their vessels aware of this, take down natives if they can obtain them but as to how they come by

these natives he was unable to say. Captain Peters of the "Susannah" has already stated how he came by those on board the brig, but I consider his a very lame story, and he evidently at the time felt very uneasy about the affair. The kings of this, and the Bonham Group, would much like a man of war to visit them yearly to prevent this kidnapping of young females. The Rev Mr Snow, American missionary on this Island for ten years, also said that the presence of a man of war is much required, as the kidnapers are getting very bold and defy the missionaries to prevent their robberies. Mr Capelle, Captain Milne and the missionaries residing here, are unanimous in stating that many of the Islands are quite depopulated, and others first becoming so, by the kidnapping, and that the remaining natives are so exasperated, that in revenge, they have murdered several ships crews lately, more especially in the Southern parts of the Gilbert Groups, and round about the Soloman, Ellice, Santa Gulf and other adjacent Islands, although formerly the natives of these Groups were very friendly to Europeans. A shipwrecked crew would stand but little chance of their lives on many of the Islands, they would be massacred without mercy, owing entirely to the outrages committed by these slavers, and from the natives not knowing how to distinguish friends from foes. At all the
The king was friendly, he and the missionary informed me, that

Marshall Islands visited by us, I have endeavoured to impress on the Chiefs that the English Government does not countenance and will not allow the kidnapping to go on. I also requested them to protect any shipwrecked men who might come among them, and that they would surely be rewarded for so doing on its coming to the knowledge of the Governments of those whom they protected.

17. Left Ebon Island on the 13th May, and after experiencing light winds and rain squalls, sighted Pills Island on the 17th. Stopped close to a small Island on the West side of the Group, having a house on it, and a flag hoisted on a cocoa nut tree. Sent the cutter in to examine the passage, she returned with a native called "Tommy" who volunteered to pilot the ship in. He informed me that this was Captain Eury's Station and that a few months ago Hayes had robbed the Island of a tank, oil and cocoa nuts. The entrance to the Lagoon is broad but shallower than the others we have been through, soundings in $6\frac{1}{2}$, 7 and $7\frac{1}{2}$ f'ms, Deep water inside the Lagoon with several 4 fathom coral patches on the way to the anchorage, but these can always be seen from aloft on a clear day. Anchored in 15 fathoms off the kings Assembly House.

I visited the king and the missionary, a Sandwich Islander. The king was friendly, he and the missionary informed me, that

vessels had been cruizing about the Group at times after natives and had taken a few, but I could not elicit from them what kind of ships they were or when it took place. The missionary also informed me that the natives were very quite and peaceably inclined, he had a good many converts including the king and his brother.

18th May. The king, his brother and many of the natives came on board early this morning, and appeared very sorry when they had to leave the ship on our getting under way at 9 am.

18. At daylight of the 20th, sighted Apiang or Charlotte Islands; at noon we had steamed up close to the entrance of the Lagoon, but I did not deem it prudent to take the ship in, as a good deal of shoal water was observable between the entrance and the anchorage. The cutter was sent away in charge of Lieutenant Hallett, who returned at 6 pm, and reported to me that he had proceeded into the Lagoon by the Northern most passage at the S.W. end of the Group, sounding as he went, and getting from 3 to 4 f'ms on the edge of the reef to 7 f'ms in the centre of the passage, which winds through large shallow patches but has no very sharp turnings. The principal village is at the East end of the Lagoon, bearing N.N.E. from the entrance, with an anchorage on a bank of 5 fathom water, and a sandy coral bottom. He found anchored here the "Lillian" English schooner,

and not well defined in the chart. belonging to Eury, and in charge of Wm. Hammond, who told Lieutenant Hallett she was laid up waiting Eurys return from Sydney.

Lieutenant Hallett enquired about the Islands, and was informed that towards white men the natives were quite friendly, but that great enmity existed between the natives of different Islands, and constant feuds were going on. During one of these quarrels, about 18 months ago, an American missionary was killed, and an American man of war was expected to arrive to enquire into the affair. Kidnapping has never taken place amongst these Islands.

Lieutenant Hallett landed and saw the missionary and the king. The missionary, a Hawaiian, confirmed Wm. Hammonds statement entirely. Hayes was at these Islands about 6 weeks before, but had not given any offence.

These Islands are in a very destitute condition, having no bread fruit, a bad supply of water and very little poultry. The natives appeared to neglect everything except the building and keeping in order of their war canoes. The population has, from the poverty of the land, dwindled down from 3000 to 1700.

19. Proceeded at 6.30 pm, stood to the S.W. to avoid the Lagoon reef of Tarawa or Knox Islands, which is very extensive

and not well defined in the chart.

At 2 am of the 22nd sighted Maina or Halls Islands, N.E. by E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. observed at 8.50 am Woodle Island, this Island is,

I am informed, a very good watering place for small vessels.

At 2 pm stopped off Apamana or Hopper Island, to communicate with three canoes, none of the natives however understood

English, procured a few fish (rock cod) from them. Not

seeing any village, or a good passage into the Lagoon, and

as it was getting late in the day, I did not attempt to

enter or send in a boat, but proceeded on for Nanoute

Island.

20. Sighted Nanoute Island at 11 am of the 23rd,

communicated with a canoe which came off from a small Island

to the N.E. of the Lagoon, the natives were perfectly

naked, could obtain no information from them. Did not see

an entrance to the Lagoon or a village.

21. At 5.50 of the same day, sighted a schooner sailing

for Nanoute Island. Tacked in chase and proceeded under

steam, and at 10.40 sent a boat to overhaul her. She proved

to be the "Rifle" schooner, the joint property of Captains

Eury and Robt Randolph, the latter being in command of her.

She had a provisional registry certificate granted at Ovalau,

one of the Fiji Islands, by Mr Marsh, the British consul, to

hold good until the 7th July next, unless she visited a regularly Registry Court port before that date. She was from Ovalau to these Islands, touching at the Ellice Group on her way, and was now cruising amongst them to pick up natives for the labour traffic (having a license to carry 36 natives) but as yet had only obtained twelve, five from Begron Island and seven from Maina. Captain Randolph gave information that the French vessel "Eugene" was on these waters. That at the end of January or early in February, off Drummond Island, he saw a brig getting under way, and on passing over the same ground, he saw seven canoes capsized and broken, he afterwards made out the brig to be the "Carl" of Melbourne. The "Rifle" was fitted entirely for the labour traffic, and having the whole of her hold and fore part laid down in a bunk, and covered with mats, and had a large supply of water tanks for her size, but there did not appear proper accommodation for 36 natives. Captain Randolph did not mention how he obtained these twelve natives, whether by purchase or otherwise, and I quite fail to understand what authority Mr Marsh, the Consul at Ovalau, has for giving licenses to vessels to carry passengers. As it has been done in this case, no doubt it is also done with Carl in February last, when she took by force, several natives

other vessels, and is, I think, open to much abuse, in fact, nothing more than a cloak for carrying any amount of what they term passengers, but who really may be kidnapped natives. Captain Randolph appears to be on very good terms with the missionaries on these Islands, and spoke strongly against the kidnapping as doing harm to trade, but it seems very like returning to the old slave practice when a small vessel of 25 tons like the "Rifle" is licensed to carry 36 passengers, and for distances of many hundred miles in the tropical seas. It is worthy of remark that the provisional register only holds good until the vessel visits a port with a Registry Office, or terminates, if not newly registered, on the 7th July, 1872, after which period she could kidnap without restraint, and it appears to me that these registry certificates so granted, are incentive to slaving, if the Captains are so disposed.

22. At midnight proceeded, and at noon of the 24th, anchored off Wiora one of the Drummond Group. Mr Kaper, missionary, a Sandwich Islander, visited me, bringing with him a British subject, a native of Mawieluis as interpreter. He informed me that H M ship "Rosario" was here 18 months ago. The "Eugene", "Midge" and "Carl" have been to the Island; the Carl in February last, when she took by force, several natives arrived there on the 29th, having encountered adverse light winds and a strong Westly current.

Two Europeans reside on this Island, Price, an Englishman from canoes that came alongside.

and Brinckman, a German, they informed me the "Eugene" One native was shot and another escaped at the time. This French fore and aft schooner arrived here on the 26th May account agrees with that of Captain Randolph of the "Rifle". and left yesterday the 28th for, it was supposed, Oantee Mr Kaper did not know exactly how many she took, but that it Island or Arurai Island, she had about 80 natives on board, was a considerabl number, he did not know her destination, the Captain said he had picked them up at Maliana Island, where she came from or whether she had other natives on board. and that he wanted to get 100 more before returning to Tahiti; The "Eugene" brought back a few natives from Tahiti, she she brought back 10 natives to this Island but failed in tried to get others to go back, but none would go willingly, obtaining any. and she left, I believe empty. The "Midge" did not take any The Captain also informed Price that a French commodore was natives. Neither the Midge's or Eugene's destinations were coming into these waters to enquire into the kidnapping. known.

A Fiji vessel was at Byron Island kidnapping natives about The German vessel calling here have been in the habit of 10 months ago. Fiji vessels have at different times, for persuading natives to go with them to Samoa, to work on the the last few months, brought back natives, but none of these plantations of Mr Webber, the North German consul before vessels could obtain natives in their place. There has been mentioned, but of late seeing none return, they refuse to go, no kidnapping on this Island for the last two years. nor will they go off to North German ships.

A native called "Sunday" lives here, he was concerned in They have no king or head chiefs on this Group, the natives the stealing of natives by French vessels two years ago, are addicted to drinking the cocoa nut toddy, and are badly and is now a kidnapping agent amongst these Islands, he is disposed. Two Englishmen and a half caste belonging to the threatened with his life by the inhabitants of several of Fiji Islands, came on board, they are collecting oil and cocoa the Islands for his evil practices. nuts, they had no information to give.

23. Left for Peru Island at daybreak of the 25th, and whom came on board, I requested him and the Europeans, to arrived there on the 29th, having encountered adverse light warn the natives against visiting ships they did not know, winds and a strong Westly current.

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and informed them that it was the intention of our Government
Two Europeans reside on this Island, Price an Englishman
and Brinckman, a German, they informed me the "Eugene"
French fore and aft schooner arrived here on the 26th May
and left yesterday the 28th for, it was supposed, Onutee
Island or Arurai Island, she had about 80 natives on board,
the Captain said he had picked them up at Maiana Island,
and that he wanted to get 100 more before returning to Tahite;
she brought back 10 natives to this Island but failed in
obtaining any.

The natives of this Island (as of the others we have visited)
The Captain also informed Price that a French commodore was
coming into these waters to enquire into the kidnapping.

A Fiji vessel was at Byron Island kidnapping natives about
10 months ago. Fiji vessels have at different times, for
the last few months, brought back natives, but none of these
vessels could obtain natives in their place. There has been
no kidnapping on this Island for the last two years.

A native called "Sunday" lives here, he was concerned in
the stealing of natives by French vessels two years ago,
and is now a kidnapping agent amongst these Islands, he is
threatened with his life by the inhabitants of several of
the Islands for his evil practices.

There are three Samoa missionaries on the Island, one of
whom came on board, I requested him and the Europeans, to
warn the natives against visiting ships they did not know,
two natives killed in this way.

and informed them that it was the intention of our Government to stop the labour traffic. a few natives a short time ago.

Very little rain has fallen here for the last 18 months and the Island is in a very impoverished state, the cocoa nut trees being almost dried up and the nuts small, fruit trees and seeds brought here by the missionaries die from want of water; the missionaries have done much good on the Island, and have almost stopped the drunkenness of the natives and consequent fighting amongst themselves. Samoa missionary

The natives of this Island (as of the others we have visited) came on board when the Europeans did, but would not unless, and wandered fearlessly with the men about the ship.

24. At 3.50 proceeded for Onutee or Clarks Island At (called Francis Island on our chart). At 1.30 pm of the 30th, we were abreast a small Island at the N.W. end of the Group, close to the entrance through the reef, and facing the village on the larger Island. At of coal in trying to reach the Island, An Englishman named Redfern came on board, he was trading agent for Smith, Macdonald and Co., of Sydney, and had lived on the Island four years. He informed me kidnappers have been here three times during that period, the last visit was about two years ago, when a Melbourne barque took 60 natives away; all the natives who attempted to escape overboard were shot down, and that he had himself picked up the bodies of two natives killed in this way.

A Tahite vessel brought back a few natives a short time ago. The "Carl" was here about two months back but did not take any natives away. The "Eugene" brought back five or six natives, but could get none in their place in consequence of the few returning of those taken away from the Island. These Island are very deficient of water not having rain for three years. There is a good anchorage in the Lagoon off the small Island, from 12 to 20 fathoms. A Samoa missionary resides here, he has considerable control over the natives, who are well disposed, but on account of the kidnapping, timid and cautious of approaching ships.

25. At 3.15 left Onutee for Tamana or Hope Island. At noon of the 31st May found we were 40 miles dead to leeward of that Island, having experienced a Westerly current of 35 miles in 17 hours, I therefore did not feel justified in expending a large amount of coal in trying to reach the Island, so I put the ships head to the West for Ocean Island, stopped steaming up screw and made all possible sail.

26. Experienced fine weather and light winds off Ocean Island on June 3rd, several canoes came alongside, one native spoke English very well, he had served in Whalers and visited America. He informed me that there were no white men now on the Island. Vessels had been at the Island two or three years

ago and had carried off a great many natives. He could give no information about the skull hunters, and although a canoe came off with a skull lashed to the pubrigger, he could not tell me anything concerning it. Whalers and trading ships frequently call here. The Island is 10 miles East out of position on the chart.

I did not send a boat in at this Island on account of heavy surf breaking off the beach.

A heavy squall came on whilst abreast the Island, which quite obscured it, and having no further information to obtain, continued on our course for Pleasant Island.

27. At daylight of the 5th June, sighted Pleasant Island. At 9 am several canoes came alongside containing pigs, fish, cocoa nuts, pumpkins, etc.

An American named Skillings came off to the ship, he had been on the Island four years. He informed me the natives were fighting amongst themselves, and that it was dangerous for Whalers and trading vessels to touch at the East and N.E. ends of the Island, as the natives there were very treacherous. There are five whites on the Island, three Englishmen, an American and a Swede, two of the Englishmen have been on the Island between 28 and 30 years. They have had a long drought on the

Island, and a great many of the cocoa nut trees have died. An Englishman, named Thomas also came off, he informed me he had served in H.M. ship "Pelorus" in Australia, as an AB, and had taken his discharge after 10 years service. Relative to the kidnapping, he said that the "Eugene" was here 14 months ago, and took ten natives away by force. The "Midge" and "Prince Arthur", both of Auckland, were here at the same time, and kidnapped ten natives between them. The "Willy" sloop from Ovalau, took one native away by force a year ago. Have had no kidnapping since the "Carl" touched here in October last, but was not successful in obtaining natives. I sent the cutter in to the Island, but none of the other white men were seen, they have perhaps, too good a reason for not showing themselves. There are some fresh water pools in the middle of the Island, containing excellent fish, some of which were brought off. The Island has been in a very impoverished state for some time, and the native wars render it very unsafe residence for whites. The whites who came off, wished particularly to warn whale ships and other merchantmen from communicating at the East end of this Island, as they would probably be boarded and captured by the savages.

At 6 pm proceeded for the Soloman Islands.

28. At daylight on the 6th observed a man of war on port quarter, she hoisted colours and wore round to close us, shortened sail for her, and at 7 made her out to be H M ship "Blanche". Shortly before 8 Captain C.H. Simpson came on board; he reported to me that he was 25 days from Sydney, and was on a cruize to the Caroline Islands and to the Soloman Islands, where, at San Christoval, a vessel with provisions and coal was to meet him on the 16th July next. He had orders to course and convey Captain Hayes to Sydney for trial, and had a detective on board to identify him. I took the opportunity of firing the remaining portion of our Quarters ammunition, I regret to say that while so doing, George Cole, A.B. in jumping back to avoid the ash sheet, which fell down by the concussion of a gun, placed his leg in the coil of the side buckle of his gun, as it was being fired and his ankle was dislocated and much mutilated, the foot being held on by a piece of flesh only, the Surgeon is however hopeful of saving the foot.

18th June. Since the 7th have experienced very light and variable winds from E.E. to S.E., with rain falls at intervals. At 2.35 this morning a very heavy thunder storm, and an electric discharge took place over the ship, the fluid passing by thus shortening our voyage I was able to supply the "Blanche"

with bread, rum and medical comforts for about 14 days issue, she having already run short of these articles. The Navigating Lieutenant of this ship went on board the "Blanche" to compare chronometers and give the information he had relating to the Marshall and Gilbert Groups, more especially the Pedder, Mulgrave and Arrowsmith Islands amongst which we left Hayes cruising.

At noon having obtained a comparison of chronometers, we parted company, the "Blanche" for Ebon Island and ourselves for Hong Kong.

29. On June 7th calms and light winds prevailing, I took the opportunity of firing the remaining portion of our Quarters ammunition, I regret to say that while so doing, George Cole, A.B. in jumping back to avoid the ash shoot, which fell down by the concussion of a gun, placed his leg in the coil of the side buckle of his gun, as it was being fired, and his ankle was dislocated and much mutilated, the foot being held on by a piece of flesh only, the Surgeon is however hopeful of saving the foot.

18th June. Since the 7th have experienced very light and variable winds from N.E. to S.E., with rain falls at intervals. At 2.35 this morning a very heavy thunder storm, and an electric discharge took place over the ship, the fluid passing

down the main mast and playing about the copper gear.
 Steamed for some hourse on the 20th during a calm: we passed at this time a quantity of drift wood and trees. Very light and baffling winds until 4 pm of the 23rd when it again fell calm, and I proceeded under steam till 6 am of the 24th when a breeze sprung up from E.S.E. which veered at noon to S.S.W., but by 4 pm it was again nearly calm. Commenced steaming at noon of the 25th, we then being in Lat: 6.09N and Long: 140.47E, in order to get out of the belt of Easterly current, which we found to be very strong here, 54 miles in one day. The same day we again passed a quantity of drift wood. Got into the Westerly current on the 27th in Lat: 7.28N Long: 139.09E, sighted the Southernmost of the Matelotas Islands on the 29th. From 29th June to 3rd July the winds rather fresher but still variable, and experienced a strong Westerly current. During a calm on the 3rd July, exercised at General Quarters firing shot and shell. Steamed from noon of the 6th to 11 am of the 7th, when a breeze sprung up from the W.S.W., and sail was made.

30. I may here make some remarks relative to the Coral Islands visited by us. They resemble each other almost entirely, being composed of narrow circular ridges or formations, which enclose Lagoons, most 15 to 20 miles in diameter. According Marshall are circular, those of the Gilbert Group oblong or

to the depth of the soil so you find the cocoa nut either struggling for existence or towering above all other vegetation, amongst which must chiefly be ranked the Pandanus or screw pine and the bread fruit. Here and there the sea washes at high tide over the barren spaces, which gives to the wooded parts the appearance of Islands, the best of which are so narrow, that you can see the ocean, which bounds one side, through the trees, when standing on the other. The Lagoons have generally two or three entrances to them from the sea, some straight and easy for navigation and others through long winding channels. Amongst the Marshall Group there is no general rule as to the position of these entrances, but in the Gilbert Group they are on the West or lee side through the small islets or reefs, all have deep enough water for the largest vessels. The villages are built in the inside of the Lagoons, but a solitary hut may now and then be seen on the outer side. In the Lagoons the natives can haul up their canoes in safety, which, on account of the heavy surf, they could not do on the seaward side. In all the Lagoons large patches of coral exist, which must be carefully avoided, as some of them have less than one fathom of water on them. The Lagoons of the Marshall are circular, those of the Gilbert Group oblong or

angular in formation, and the houses of the kings or chiefs are built on the large Islands on the East or weather side under the lee of the land.

The natives of the Gilbert are not so well behaved or civilized as the Marshall Islanders, nor have the missionaries made such good progress among them, are lawless, quarrelsome and drunken in their habits, and have no leaders or chiefs to control them.

Ocean and Pleasant Islands are very different from the above in their formation, Ocean Island has steep rocks running down to the waters edge and no coral reef round it, and is moderately high. Pleasant Island is much the same, but has a reef round the lee side, and, I was informed by Mr Snow, missionary, has an extinct crater which now forms the lake.

31. I have also some few additional remarks to make relative to the kidnapping of natives. I think there can be no doubt as long as the system of allowing consuls at the Samoa and Fiji Islands, to grant provisional certificates of Registry to vessels, by which they can change their original colours to those of the Fiji or other Islands, and which they grant with apparently but little enquiry into the vessels antecedents, as wells as that of giving a license to carry natives for the labour traffic, so long will there be

opportunities for evading the laws against kidnapping and slavery, and any number of ships of war could not prevent them, as shown by the Ketch at Bonham Island (Paragraph 10) and the "Rifle" (Paragraph 21). This system is liable to still further abuse from the indifferent characters of the majority of Captains of the labour vessels, who will hesitate at nothing in order to obtain natives, as in the cases of the barque at Onutee Island (Paragraph 24) and the "Carl" brig at Taputeonea Island (Paragraph 21 and 22).

If vessels are to be so employed and licensed, they ought to be under the strictest supervision, to prevent illegal acts, and to see that the vessels are not over crowded and are properly victualled.

In the case of the North German brig "Susannah" I feel, assumed from the conduct of the Captain, that the natives on board her were being taken to Samoa for the labour traffic, and although they were not actually confined below they were utterly cowed down and appeared in a state of starvation.

Kidnapping vessels do not as a rule venture into the Lagoons for natives for fear of being captured, but confine themselves to those Islands which have no Lagoons, such as Taputeonea, they greatly requiring a change of diet having been on the

Peru, Onutee, Tamana, Byron and Hopper Islands, of the Gilbert, and Knox, Nam[?] and Kyli Islands, of the Marshall Group, and also Ocean and Pleasant Islands. At all these they can lie off close to the shore and entice the natives on board, and then get clear off with much greater ease than from a Lagoon.

And amongst the Gilbert kidnapping is, perhaps, facilitated by the natives having no chiefs to hold them in control, and I believe there are kidnapping agents among the natives themselves, as is the case with the man "Sunday" at Peru Island (Paragraph 23).

32. Sighted the land to the Southward of the Bernardino Passage on the 11th July, after having experienced heavy squalls and variable winds since the 7th, at 10.30 am of the 12th passed St. Bernardino Island and at 6.30 pm anchored off San Jacinto on the Island of Ticao. On Sunday the 14th proceeded, having taken on board three bullocks and as much fresh vegetables as could be procured.

Experienced fine weather in passing through the Straits and at 1.40 pm of the 16th anchored in Manila Bay.

I put into this port to replenish with coal and provisions, and to give the crew a few days victualling on fresh provisions, they greatly requiring a change of diet having been on the

Marshall Group

- Enclosure No 1 -

Lewis, J. Moore

Captain

Enclosure No 2 in China Letter No 221 of 19th August 1872

Her Majestys Ship "Barrosa"

Ebon Island, 10th May 1872.

Sir

I have to thank you in the name of the Queen of Great Britain for the kindness and hospitality with which you and your people treated the five British subjects wrecked on your Island in August, 1871. I regret that I was unable to thank you personally for these kind services, but as, when the boat arrived on board, night had closed in, and it being unsafe to remain so close to the reefs, I was obliged, although reluctantly, to proceed on my voyage.

I have to request that should any ship again be lost on your Islands, you will treat her people with the same kindness and generosity with which you treated these five

To,

the Head Chief of the
Ailu Islands

Radack Chain

Marshall Group

sea victualling for about 119 days. After receiving on board a weeks provisions, fresh meat and vegetables for three days and 50 tons of coal, left Manila for Hong Kong, at 4 am of the 19th experienced until the 22nd squally weather, since then it has been finer with more settled winds.

Anchored on the evening of the 24th July off Tamkau Lema Islands and proceeded into Hong Kong on the 25th.

I have the honor to be
 Lewis, J. Moore, Captain

Sir

Your most obedt servant
 Forwarded with translation, to the Island by Mr T.E.F. Milne,

Master of the Schooner "Limalas"

Lewis. J. Moore.

Captain

men, and by so doing you will everafter secure the
gratitude and affection of their fellow countrymen.

With this letter will be forwarded to you a
present from the shipwrecked men, and the people of this
ship, as a small token of their appreciation of your conduct.

I have the honor to be,

etc,

Monsieur Milne

(Sg)

Boston Island,

Lewis, J, Moore, Captain

Monsieur,

Forwarded with translation, to Ailu Island by Mr T.E.F. Milne,
Master of the Schooner "Iimalas"
it will be of much assistance in China towards obtaining
justice for the conduct of this person towards me, conduct
which is far from being that of a gentleman, as you will
be able judge.

I met Captain Hayes at Strongs Island about the
16th October, 1871, on the 19th October I sold him my vessel
and my goods, accepting in payment his notes payable at three
months or three days, after arrival in Japan, where he
engaged to reconvey me to, (as cabin passenger) as also my
Japanese crew. He further agreed to pay the wages of my
crew, from the day when he took them on board until the day

Enclosure No 3 in China Letter No 221 of 19th August 1872

when he landed there - Enclosure 2 - was on his way, he said,

Translation from the French. -

Lewis, J. Moore

Boston Island, 27th Decr. 1871.

Captain

To,

Monsieur Milne

Boston Island.

Monsieur,

Thanks for the information which you have had the kindness to give me respecting Captain Hayes, I hope that it will be of much assistance in China towards obtaining justice for the conduct of this person towards me, conduct which is far from being that of a gentleman, as you will be able judge.

I met Captain Hayes at Strongs Island about the 16th October, 1871, on the 19th October I sold him my vessel and my goods, accepting in payment his notes payable at three months or three days, after arrival in Japan, where he engaged to reconvey me to, (as cabin passenger) as also my Japanese Crew. He further agreed to pay the wages of my crew, from the day when he took them on board until the day

when he landed them in Japan. He was on his way, he said, to the Samoan Islands, touching at Mille, and would return to Strong's Island to take my men back to their own country. One Japanese alone, the Carpenter, entered at that time into his service, and was taken to Mille, where he was to wait the return of Captain Hayes from the Samoan Group.

On the 21st October, 1871, I made with Captain Hayes a mutual contract for the fishing for beche-de-mer, and I paid him down the sum of two thousand dollars (\$2000) for my half share of six beche-de-mer stations, which he bound himself to open during his return voyage from Strong's Island to Japan. For this sum he engaged to furnish every thing necessary for the six stations, among other things boats, pots and natives for working.

On the 23rd, we left Strong's Island for Mille. After a sufficiently unfortunate passage of nearly a months duration, we arrived in sight of Mille, and just at the moment when you left that Island in your Schooner.

As you may recollect Captain Hayes made a tack in order to ask you for news, and one piece of information which you gave him was, that an English man of war was in search of Captain Pease and Captain Hayes.

The interview between Captain Hayes and you, having ended, he came to me, and said laughingly, that you were mistaken, that it was not he, but another Captain, whom the man of war was in quest of.

The next day we entered Mille, and as you know, Captain Hayes robbed the Station belonging to an Englishman, after that noble exploit, Captain Hayes prepared to trade in the Marshall and Gilbert Islands, instead of going to Samoa, and I was annoyed at this. I fixed the end of February as the latest date for the opening of the beche-de-mer stations.

He then promised that the Stations would be opened by that time. Only from that time forward he did all he could to render my residence on board insupportable. The food which till then had been very bad, became uneatable; he landed all the fresh provisions which he had, and I had to live as the crew, on rice, a little salt pork and water. On the other hand he became remarkably obliging when I wished to go on shore, and several times he placed his boat at my disposal had I wished to sleep on shore, but having learnt that his mode of paying his creditors was to leave them on a reef, I always refused to do so.

I pass over in silence what was done during a months trading in the Marshall and Gilbert Islands, and now

arrive at the month of December, when we were at the Island of Apia.

After having arranged Captain Pease affairs with the king, he took on freight, the Cobra (dried cocoanuts) from three stations of a German firm to carry it to the Samoa Islands, this affair gave me great displeasure, for three reasons, - 1st - It is not the part of an honest man to engage those employed by a firm to do those things which they ought not to do. 2nd - Captain Hayes had told me several days before, that he would not anchor at Samoa, but would content himself with cruizing before the harbour and sending a boat on shore for provisions. He had formerly been in difficulty with the English Consul, with regard to some natives whom he had brought, and he feared being arrested. Be it well understood, he told me he was innocent.

When I saw him take freight for Samoa, I recollected that he could not go there, and thence, I forcibly concluded that he had guilty intentions. Besides his conduct towards the holders of the cobra was far from being proper. 3rd - The time which he must lose in shipping the cobra, added to the month lost in trading previously, made it impossible for him to keep his engagements with me, and to open the six beche-de-mer stations by the end of February.

I made him several remarks on this subject, but he paid no regard to them, merely replying that he would keep to his engagements with me, and open the stations at the time agreed on. But I, being convinced that he would not do so, and also having serious anxiety from this conduct to the owners of the cobra, decided to return to Strongs Island, to see what I could do for my crew and my business. Promising myself, be it understood, to institute a process against Captain Hayes on his arrival in China.

I consequently chartered the small vessel "Lillian" belonging to Captain Eury, master of the Schooner "Ida".

When all these things had been concluded it was about half past three PM. I commenced to put my luggage in order, and send it on board the "Lillian", as also the merchandise which I had on board Captain Hayes; but all this he had to give me \$150. Mr Eury not caring to take the bill, Captain Hayes proposed that I should pass it to his order, and that he would pay Captain Eury. I agreed, but on the condition that he would sell me, one of his boats for \$80.

There remained then a balance of \$70 on the \$400 draft after paying for the boat and the charter party amounting to \$330. But as I was to take back at the same price a part of the goods sold by me to Captain Hayes, and was to give him in payment

the note which he had given me at the time that I sold him these goods, I told him that we would take notice of these seventy dollars in the settlement of our accounts. I also remarked to him, that having paid \$2000 for his opening six beche-de-mer stations, I demanded that he should do so by the time agreed upon, and that having paid for the boat which I took, he had money to buy another, and that he could not say afterwards that he was in want of boats.

Captain Hayes requiring the boat for the shipment of the cobra, it was agreed that he should deliver it to me at Tarawa (Knox's Island) on the first demand.

When all these things had been concluded it was about half past three PM. I commenced to put my luggage in order, and send it on board the "Lillian", as also the merchandize which I had on board Captain Hayes; but all this took time, so at the dinner hour I had not finished, but Captain Hayes' vessel not sailing till 9 o'clock on the morrow morning, I had time enough.

The next day at daybreak I went on board the "Lillian" to see if my goods had arrived in good order. During this time Captain Hayes was to put up the trade, muskets and ammunition, of which I had need, he had also to pack a number

of pretty decanters and dry out champagne glasses which I had placed in the racks. On my return, I was to take these things, to regulate our accounts and put all our papers in order.

Scarcely had I arrived on board the "Lillian" when the boat which brought me returned without notice and on its return Captain Hayes made sail.

The "Lillian" boat being out of repair I had to witness Captain Hayes making sail without the power of protesting. It was only at the moment of weighting anchor, that the boat of the Schooner "Ida" happening to pass, took me on board of the Brig. But all that I had time to do was to reproach the Captain for his conduct, he did not reply, but went into the main rigging to look out for the reefs. I had to re-embark in the boat, taking with me only three maskets, one keg of powder and two boxes of caps.

Two days after the "Lillian" left Apia and we anchored the same day at noon in Tarawa, near Captain Hayes' vessel, on board of which I went at once - judge what was my indignation, when he then refused to deliver to me the boat and the rest of my baggage, and when he also refused to put our papers in order.

I then went on board of Captain Eury and told him my affairs. He willingly went on board of Captain Hayes to try and obtain justice for me. These gentlemen conversed at first on

deck, then Captain Hayes asked Captain Eury to step below into the cabin. Shortly afterwards they came on deck again and Captain Eury said to me, that he would not concern himself further in my business as I had not paid for the boat, and as I owed money to Captain Hayes, I wished to protest, to explain, but could not do so, Captain Hayes interrupting me at every moment and giving to my words a meaning quite different from what I intended to convey. Speaking very little English, and being besides extremely excited, I could not succeed in making myself understood. In despair of my cause, I said, or believe that I said, this in English "You have on board a boat which I purchased from you, you have decanters and glasses of mine which you refuse to deliver to me, we have papers to put in order, you will not do so, I swear that I am in the right" Captain Hayes replied "There is no judge here, so it is useless to take oaths". I answered, that if we had not mans justice we might at least have that of God. That if he would meet me on shore we could settle our differences by two revolvers, He refused, and added "Any how I do not wish to see you any longer on board of my vessel, be off with you or I will throw you overboard" I replied "Yes, I am off, but I will again

see you in China". Scarcely had I made five or six steps when feeling myself pushed, I turned round, and at the same instant I received from Captain Hayes a blow which stunned me. When I came to myself at the end of some seconds as I believe, I was lying stretched at the foot of the side ladder. I had my jaw bruized, my upper lip cut in two places, and my blood stained the deck. I descended into the boat and went on board the "Lillian", which left at once to return to Apia. I learnt during the passage across that Captain Hayes had shown to Captain Eury, papers proving that I owed him \$800. These papers are forgeries, independtly of the \$2000 paid to him for the beche-de-mer stations, I have his bills for \$1226.

Such, Monsieur, is a true account of Captain Hayes' conduct towards me, and I believe that he does not act any better towards others, for everywhere there is a concert of maledictions against him.

Be good enough, Monsieur, with my sincere thanks for your kind reception, my warmest acknowledgements.

(Signed)

G. Lechat

Care of the French Consul, Yokohama, Japan.

- Enclosure 3 -

Enclosure No 4 in China Letter No 221 of 19th August 1872.

Lewis J. Moore Captain

Statement of Asia, James, Lowther, Trading Agent on the Mulgrave Islands, for Messrs R. Towns and Co., of Sydney, N.S.W.

On the 7th Novr, 1871, about 11 am, the brig "Leonora" arrived at the Mulgrave Islands, a boat came on shore with Captain Hayes' compliments for me to come on board. I went on board, and saw Mr Hayes, the master, who told me he had come to settle up the affairs of Glover, Dou and Co., of Shanghae, bankrupts, at 7 pm I returned on shore.

Remarks in Hayes' conversation he blamed Mr Eury for stripping the station of Glover and Co., although Eury had bought the produce. Hayes sent for the King to see the transfer of premises.

8th Novr. 1871. About 9 am Hayes came onshore. I showed him my agreement with Captain Eury of the brig "Spec", on behalf of Towns and Co. Sydney, and my last bill of trade with Captain J. Daly, of the "Lady Alicia", up to the 14 June, 1871. About 10 am he sold then and there, the station, only myself and another white man being on the spot at the

time, Hayes purchased it himself for 25 dollars. He asked me on board as he wanted to speak to me. After luncheon on board, he told me he wanted the hogsheads, twenty one in all, and two 400 gallon tanks, as payment for what Eury had stripped the station of, he told me he would buy my oil at the current rates, and offered me a bill for part of the amount. His swearing vengeance against Eury made me become afraid of him, I asked him to let me go onshore, and at 4 pm I returned on shore.

Remarks. Finding I could not prevail on prudent measures, I became afraid. I saw four broadside mounted guns, and two swivels, and they were mounting two more guns on carriages, Hayes told the Mate to see that they were pairs, Hayes then told me that I was in range of him.

At 4.30 pm the king and suite arrived on board, before the king went on deck, Hayes fired the three starboard guns, with the American flag at the Peak, the pendant at the Main. At 7 pm the king came on shore and told me Hayes was making preparations to receive my oil on board and stow it down on the 9th, and also to put me under restraint. I sent for a white man, on another Island, John, H. Heslop, by name, and told him the position I was in, he advised me to put my property in the hands of the King for safe keeping, offering

time against his actions. Hayes landed his man, trade stock

3.

pigs, one boat raft, oil and one tank taken on board.

11th Novr 1871. At 7 am went to the house and saw one boats
the king \$5 and 100 head of Tobacco, for so doing, the king

accepted it. At 11 am the last of the oil was taken on

9th Novr. 1871. Between night and morning I was shifting my
goods into the Kings keeping. At 9 am Hayes came on shore,
he gave me a letter, the purport of the letter was, in the
first place, ordering me away in twenty-four hours; Secondly,
offering me twenty pounds down for my oil; Thirdly, a receipt
and demand for the Tanks and Hogsheads, to keep me clear of
the law as Messrs Towns servant. An altercation took place,
ending in Hayes demanding Tanks, Hogsheads and oil. pigs, and
Remarks of the 9th. When I told Captain Hayes I should commit
a misdemeanour by selling the oil to him, as the casks were
not mine, he got into a fearful rage, and told me "If Jesus
Christ and God Almighty stood at the door, he would fight for
it". I protested that he would be answerable for his actions,
(Signed)
and asked him if I could keep the letter, he said "Yes, if I
sold the oil", I then read distinctly, in the presence of one
John. H. Heslop, a British subject, at the time in the house,
my protest that he would be answerable to Towns and Co. of
Sydney, he dammed Towns and Eury, and said "Who was Towns, he
was but a man".

10 Novr 1871. At 9 am I left the place protesting a second
time against his actions. Hayes landed his man, trade stock

pigs, one boat raft, oil and one tank taken on board.
 11th Novr 1871. At 7 am went to the house and saw one boats
 crew taking oil.

12th Novr 1871. At 11 am the last of the oil was taken on
 board the "Leonora" and the second tank.

13th Novr 1871. I received a letter from Captain Hayes,
 containing two papers, one dated Novr 8th, ordering me from
 the premises. 15th Novr 1871. Captain Hayes sailed in the
 brig "Leonora" and to the Northward.

On the 24 November 1871, Captain Hayes returned to the Island
 and took eight pigs of mine.

Remarks. He said I stated falsely to him about these pigs, and
 that I might think myself well off if he did not strip me of
 everything I had. I became alarmed for I did not know to what
 extent he might go.

On the 25th November Hayes branded my pigs.

(Signed)

Asia, James, Lowther.

Lewis, J. Moore

Captain

Enclosure No 5 in China Letter No 221 of 19th August 1872.

Description of the "Leonora" brig, Captain Hayes, formerly "Water Lily", given by James Lowther, Trading Agent at the Mulgrave Islands. _____

Great length, high wooded, copper well out of water, flush on deck, one house abaft the foremast, name on both quarters and stern, no name for Port of sailing, full brig rigged, patent rolling topsails, long mast heads painted white, gilt balls on the trucks, Name "Water Lily" and tonnage (217) on the main hatch, and on her bell "Water Lily of Aberdeen".

Flies the United States Flag, and has a numerous crew of all nations and colour.

She had twelve mounted broadside guns but they were landed at Samoa shortly before she was searched by the United States Sloop "Naragansett".

Lewis, J. Moore

Captain

Enclosure No 6 in China Letter No 221 of 19th August 1872.

By Charles Frederick Alexander
Shadwell, Esquire, Companion of the
Most Honorable Order of the Bath,
Vice Admiral in Her Majesty's Fleet,
and Commander in Chief of Her
Majesty's Ships and Vessels on the
China Station.

Her Majestys Ship under your command being complete with
Provisions and Coal to as much as can possibly be stowed,
and in all respects ready, you will transfer to Commander
Boyle of the "Curlew", on the arrival of that Vessel, the
duties of Senior Officer in Japan and proceed in the "Barrosa",
to the Island of Ailu, in the Marshall Group, with the object
of rescuing a portion of the crew of the British Barque
"Corypheus" who elected to remain on that Island after the
Vessel had been wrecked on the 23rd August last, instead of
accompanying their shipmates in a long ocean voyage in open
boats.

The accompanying Memorandum will afford you information
gathered from the depositions of the Chief Mate and four others
of the crew who were picked up at sea on the 1st October by
the ship "Borealis" and conveyed to Shanghai, as well as from
the narrative of the master and his three companions who
succeeded in reaching Rockhampton in Australia on October 18th,

and from it you will learn that those who remained on the island and to whose rescue you are proceeding consist of

Peter Lewis,)
 Otto Eishert,) Nationality not stated.

John Wickeroi, Australian, and two Chinese.

Should you succeed in discovering these castaways, you will afford them the opportunity of removal in Her Majesty's Ship under your command; but in the event of your not finding them at Ailu you will use every endeavour to ascertain their whereabouts, and by what means they may have left the Island.

You will also receive herewith the copy of a letter (with its enclosures marked Confidential) which I have received from Commadore Stirling, Commanding in Australia, on the subject of outrages committed by Vessels engaged in the so-called labour trade, amongst the Polynesian Groups. From this you will learn that various lawless acts are committed by persons in this trade, who, it is alleged, forcibly deport natives and commit other atrocities. Lord Belmore is of opinion that it is not improbable that a searching inquiry may result in obtaining information necessary to bring the Masters of the ships to justice; and with this end in view you will visit such Islands of the Marshall Group, as you may find desirable, for the purpose of making enquiry, and obtaining information.

Bonham Island, the suspected rendezvous of the notorious Hayes, in the "Water Lily", should also be visited.

You will afterwards proceed to the Gilbert Group, Ocean and Pleasant Islands and the Soloman Group for the same purpose. Your first place of call at the Soloman Islands should be Florida, (referred to in the correspondence as the scene of some of the atrocities) which appears on Chart 2464, Pacific Ocean, Sheet 6, to be situated in the centre of the triangle formed by the Islands of Ysabel, Guadalcanar and Inalayta. It is possible that you may find there some member of the Melanesian Mission from whom you could obtain additional information, or whose assistance might be useful in making enquiries amongst the Natives.

Caution is to be observed in all your intercourse with the inhabitants of the Islands you are about to visit.

Boats and parties should be armed and always on their guard, as no doubt the Natives at many of the Islands must be highly exasperated at the kidnapping atrocities, so frequently perpetrated among them, and in their inability at first to distinguish friends from foes might possibly avenge themselves on innocent persons coming among them, with the most friendly intentions, as the recent melancholy deaths of Bishop Patterson and his missionary colleague, Mr Atkin, only too plainly testify.

For these reasons you will see the necessity for acting with the greatest prudence and circumspection, especially in your first intercourse with the Natives. I would also impress upon you the necessity for cultivating with them afterwards the most friendly relations in order to obtain from them, when you have won their confidence, information bearing on the object of your enquiry.

In reply to a reference made by me to the Admiralty, their Lordships by telegraph simply direct you to "collect information about labour trade, using discretion and acting according to law in checking it". You will accordingly carry out their Lordships' orders; and in the absence of any special instructions conveying the views of Her Majesty's Government with regard to the illegal acts alleged to have been committed by Vessels employed in the Labour Trade.

I authorize you to examine every vessel you may fall in with wearing British Colours and to act in accordance with the 15th and 103rd sections of the Merchant Shipping Act. Some of the Vessels fallen in with may be sailing under the French Protectorate Flag of Tahiti; and with regard to such your attention is particularly called to Admiralty Confidential Letter of 22nd July 1867, on the subject of communicating

with ships under French Colours since the abrogation of the Treaty with France for the suppression of the Slave Trade; the provisions of which you will be careful not to exceed.

Unless especially desirable for the better execution of these orders you are not to quit the limits of the China Station, but should circumstances arise which might in your opinion render it beneficial to take the "Barrosa" to Islands adjacent to the parallel of the 10th degree of South Latitude, within the limits of the Australian command, you have my permission to do so, but not to remain longer than may be absolutely necessary.

As the cruize of the "Barrosa" will extend over a lengthened period, the utmost frugality is to be observed in the expenditure of fuel. The principal part of this service should be performed under sail, and steam only resorted to in cases of necessity, or in a locality abounding with numerous Islets and Coral Reefs where the utmost vigilance and most careful navigation is requisite.

Having performed the service herein ordered, so far as you may be able, you will return in the "Barrosa" to Hong Kong, where I hope you may be able to arrive about the end of June.

A State and Conditions is to be furnished me up to the date of your quitting Yokohama.

You will take advantage of every available and proper opportunity which may offer to keep me informed of your proceedings; and if in your opinion, desirable, you will send a duplicate of your reports direct to the Admiralty.

Dated on board the "Iron Duke" at Hong Kong, 6th March 1872.

(Sd) Chas F. A. Shadwell

To.

Lewis James Moore, Esquire,

Captain of

Her Majesty's Ship "Barrosa".

By command of the Commander in Chief.

(Signed)

N. B. Hutchison.

Secretary.

P.I. H & P No. - 1

Sydney March 15th 1872 [?] [or 1873]

Depositions Of Asia James Lowther.

Tuesday Novr. 7th. 1871.

At 11 a.m. arrived the Brig Leenora Alias Pionear Alias Water Lily. Boat came ashore with Misr. Hayes Compliments & his request to come aboard. Went on board saw Mistr. Hayes Master reporting and telling me he came to settle up the affairs of Glover Dau & Co bankrup. At 7 p.m. returned home.

Remarks Novr. 7th.

His Hayes talk wants to Buy the oil at the curant rates Pending.

Wednesday Novr. 8th. 1871.

About 9 a.m. Hayes came on shore I showed him my last bill of trade of Mistr. John Dailey up to the 14th of June and also my agreement. Asked me aboard as he wanted to speak to me he told me he wanted the oil Tanks [?] and Hogsheads offered me a Bill on the French Government of New Caledonia. For the amount saying Mister Uary [?] had taken casks belonging to him myself i was collecting oil for Mister John Dailey Master Mariner of this Port asked him to let me come ashore at 4 p.m. returned home.

Remarks Novr. 8th. 1871.

Finding i could not prevail on Prudent Measures became afraid saw 4 four mounted guns namely Broadside and putting 2 more on Carriages told the mate to see they where Pairs. Told me i was in Range of him. 4 p.m. returned home. $\frac{1}{2}$ 4 King and suite arrived on Board fired 3 Broadside Guns to Starboard as the King went alongside [?] his Head Wind S.E. American Flag at the Peak Pennant at the main. 7 p.m. King arrived at House told

me Hayes was making preparations aboard to take my oil stow it down on the
morrow being the 9th and to put me under restraint by making my hands fast.
sent for the 2 white men/ and told them the Position I was in advising me to
put my Propertey in hands of the King for safe keeping offering the King 5
Dollars & 100 heads of Tobacco Accepted received 2 two 2 Letters from the
Cheif Kilukey [?] Sandstrong [?] versus Peas.

Thursday Novr. 9th. 1871.

Between Night and morning shifting my goods and in the Hands of the King for
safe keeping. 9 a.m. Hayes came ashore gave me a Letter unsealed the Purport
of Letter offering me 20 £ Per Ton for my oil and a receipt for the Hogsheads
~~of~~ & Tanks to keep me clear of the Law as R. Towns & Co servant i remonstrated
in Polite words ending in Mistr Hayes taking Casks oil & Tanks.

Remarks Novr. 9th.

Hayes said when i told him i would commit myself as a misdemenur by selling
the oil as the Casks where not mine he Jumped in a fearful rage & told me if
Jesus Christ & God Almighty stood at the door he would fight for it i told him
i was defenceless I protested he would be answerable to R. Towns & Co for his
actions. Asked him if i could keep the letters he said yes if i sold the
oil i then read the Letter in the presence of one F. H. Heslopp British Subject
at the time in my house he residing at this time on the Mulgraves and made my
protest he would be answerable to R. Towns & Co. of Sydney he damned R. Townes
and Uary and said who who was Townes he was but a man.

Witness in my Book

John H. Heslop.

Friday Novr. 10th. 1871.

At 9 a.m. left the place the House and grounds being my own by purchase by the

Cheif the Legal owner Protesting the 2nd time against his actions. Landed his man Charles Robert British subject at this time on Mac Kascals Island in the Caroline group rafting oil 1 Tank taken aboard.

Remarks Novr. 10th. 1871.

Saw my oil running on the ground of the Nuts i had on hand he Hayes taken possession.

Saturday 11th Novr. 11th. 1871.

Went to the house and saw them taking oil and pumping oil off of the 2nd Tank.

Sunday 12th Novr. 1871.

At 11 a.m. the last of the oil taken aboard and taken aboard.

Monday 13th Novr. 1871.

At 4 p.m. received a closed Paper containing 2 papers and requesting me to take payment for my oil.

Remarks 13th Novr. 1871.

Sent a note to Mister Hayes telling him i could not sell my employers goods.

Witness in my Book J. H. Heslop.

Wednesday 15th Novr. 1871.

Sailed Brig Leonora and stood to the N.

Tuesday Novr. 21st. 1871.

At 6 p.m. arrived the Brig Leonora Williams an a america subject leaves his ~~premisies~~ premisies for the 2nd time afraid of Hayes robbing him.

Wensday Novr. 22nd. 1971.

Hayes went to the Kings village after 12 Hogsheads of oil left there for Cappella & Co of Ebon or Boston Island for Misr. John Dailey the King hid the oil & told Hayes it was not paid for by Capella & Co and he claimed it till paid for by the advice of the Missionary.

Thursday 23rd Novr. 1872. [sic].

Leonora left the Kings village and came to an anchor at Tuk e wan.

Friday Novr. 24th. 1871.

Saw the King this morning he told me to keep out of Hayes way. 9 a.m. King went aboard firing from heavy Guns Hayes ^s told the King a cannon Powder and Ball second Cheif who i stopped with A saw [?] Pig at 3 p.m. Hayes came ashore and took 8 of my Pigs weight about 1400 lbs i remonstrated but he told me he would take all i had if i was not civil. Became afraid for i did not know what extent he would go to.

Tuesday 28th Novr. 1871.

At Daylight Brig Leonora left and stood to the S. Hayes taking my oil R. Townes & Co Hogsheads and Tanks my Pigs Keeping 2 large Tubs.

Friday Jany 5th. 1872.

9 a.m. Brig Leonora came to an anchor from the S.E. with cargo of Cobra. Bound for the Samoas.

Sunday 7th Jany. 1872.

Leonora left report says he is going to Arrowsmiths Island.

Friday 12th Jany. 1872.

Arrive the Schooner Neva belonging to Hayes and Landing 33 Hogsheads of Coca Nut oil.

April 11th / 1872.

7 a.m. arrived the Brig Leonora from the Samoas received a visit by Hayes introducing a man as the vice Counsal of the Samoas and the man acknowledged the same. Hayes told me that Eury was not coming to me.

May 9th 1872.

Finding there was no likelyhood of Capn. Dailey coming to me before August and being without food i made a contract with Hayes for to carry me to Sydenhams Island shipping 589 Galls. of Coca Nut oil one Imperial Ton for my Passage and the rest to be Paid for at the rate of 20 £ Per ton on my arrival at Sydenhams Island/ wich he as not fulfilled.

May 16th.

Made Providence Island and came to an anchor in the laggon.

May 20th.

Hayes and his Ships Company went on shore and secured by force 4 Natives and brought them on board after detaining them about 5 hours dismissed them giving them a few trinkets and telling them he was going to land his men.

May 21st. 1872.

At daylight landing his men and there chattels namely Henry Goodmen an American and William Knight British and 13 Natives & belongings to assencion 4 of the island of Peru of the Gilberts group 4 of Drummonds Island and one of Sydnehams Island and one of Meriki or Matthews Island.

May 23rd. 1872.

Left Providence Island bound for Mc Kaskals in the Caroline group.

May 25th.

Arrived at Mc Kaskels and made trade for food.

May 26th.

Left Mc Kaskels bringing his trader off and landing another. Bringing 1 man 2 woman and a little girl Namely a Child.

May 30th. 1872.

Arrive at Strong's Island & came to an anchor in the South Harbour and demanding Payment for Glover Dau and Co. of Shanghai.

June 6th. 1872.

Left Strong's Island bound for Providence Island.

June 9th. 1872. Being Sunday.

Arrived at Providence Island unbent sails and running gear.

June 11th. 1872.

Hayes said Every one but the 2 Boys must land and support themselves as he had no food on board. All hands consented.

June 13th.

Hayes hunted the Bush for the Natives. He found them all 17 Natives 15 fifteen he captured & took on Board the Brig and Placed them under restraint by his shore party leaving 2 very aged old woman unable to assist themselves they being infirm and unable to walk in the charge of the Trader Henry Gardner to look after.

June 14th / 72.

Boat arrived to self with 6 Natives 4 men and 2 woman 4 men in Irons Hayes keeping three Native woman distributing them as follows 1 to the Mate, 1 to Allan 1 to Bill both the latter men before the mast. A very girl he kept

himself this Night he committed a Rape on the Little Girl he got from
Mc Kaskals against her will.

June 15th.

6 Natives run away and recaptured taken aboard and got a punching about the
Head with Hayes fist got all their eyes Blackened they continued to cry to
punish them still further he committed a rape on the young girl of Providence.
They went aft imploring him to let there daughter join them and desist from
his actions he then put them to the cable chain they still asked again and
again in a loud voice then he put there hands to the cable and a belaying pin
in ~~the~~ ~~mouth~~ there mouth with a stopper at the back of the head till
morning.

June 16th. 1872.

Hayes visited me bringing back the 4 men and 2 woman men in irons in my
presence with another beating it is this day i know he as violated these
two children for he asked my wife to administer to there wants.

June 17th / 72.

Hayes visited me one of the old woman being dead which was left in the hands
of H. Gardner on the 13th of June.

June 23rd.

The 6 Natives run away during the night.

June 30th. 1872.

The 6 Natives recaptured during the night.

Sunday 20th July. 1872.

At 10 a.m. left Providence Island for Mc Kaskals. He Hayes taking 20 ton of

dried Coco Nuts of the island 2 canoe masts for his boats all ~~the~~ rope of the 2 canoes making the Natives do what he will by leaving imperatives orders for them to work up the whole of there arrow root again he returned. He has threatened them with destruction keeping and marrying there young woman 3 in number to his own Natives on the station.

July 27th to August 15th.

Arrived at Mc Kaskals calling at Strongs and at Arrowsmith Island, At Daniels Island and at the Mulgraves. At this island he knocked 4 teeth out of a foremast hand a Portigee by name George.

Sunday 15th August. 1872.

At Pitts Island and anchored in the Lagoon at the Kings village. 19th went to the stores of McDonald Smith & Co. of this Port. Bought some things for Liquear and others he took liberty to take them.

Sunday 22nd Augt.

Leonora Brig & Schooner Ida at anchor at the S.W. of Pitts Island. Hayes told me i had better take a passage with Eury as he would not be able to get to Sydnehams Island with me after being aboard of him since May 9th and here i am not got to Sydenhams Island yet.

Sir,

There is a man on Drummonds Island by Name James Gascon [Gascan] and Frank Benson and Henry Mullholland the two latter ar on Matthews Island in the Gilberts archipeligo will confirm what i have stated in these writings but i am sorry to say you will have to intimidate them or charge them as an aconplice you can use my name as being the or your informant. I beg to state i leave this port about Saturday in the E.K. Bateson you will find me

if it is your wish on the island of Sydenhams Gilbert archipeligo at present
N.5 Windmill Street Millers Point.

I beg to Remain

Yours respectfully

Asia James Lowther.

P.S. over.

I beg to add there was a Native he brought from Samoas belonging to Drummonds
Island agreed to work for 6 months for his passage to his home namely
Drummonds Isld on Providence the native asked him Hayes about taking him
home Hayes cursing him & telling him he would take him home with that
striking him in the jaw with a stick used for usking coco nuts fracturing
his jaw his name is Tin Ter Mi No i feel almost sure that man is dead for
when i saw him he was at deaths door.

I beg to remain yours

Asia James Lowther.

.....

Copy

U.S.S. Iroquois, 3 rate,
Butaritari, Gilbert Islands,
21 December 1889.

Flagship Charleston
Forwarded

March 19 1890

'Signed) ???

Rear Admiral

Commanding U.S. Naval Forces, Pacific Station.

Chief of Bureau of Navigation,
Navy Department,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I respectfully report that the U.S.S. Iroquois sailed from Jaluit, Marshall Islands, at 4 P.M. Dec. 10th 1889, and after a pleasant run under steam, arrived at Butaritari at noon on December 12th 1889.

The ship was piloted into the harbour by Lieut. S.C. Paine U.S.N., the Navigator, from the fore top. He was assisted by Charles Lauterback the mate of the shipwrecked schooner H.L. Tiernan, who was on board for passage to Samoa, and who was familiar with the coral heads in the lagoon.

On arrival, I went on shore to see the wife of Consular Agent Adolph Rick, who, I learned had gone to Samoa. I arranged with her to visit the King, Mandemate (?); as he was then away, she sent for him.

I made inquiry as to American affairs in the Islands. Everything was very peaceable, but the natives were very much surprised the Americans had so large a man-of-war. When the German man-of-war was here, the King had been visited by the Captain with quite a number of officers in full uniform and he had been received on board.

I paid the King an official visit with five Officers in my suite, the largest I could get, to be as imposing as possible, and after the official reception with Mrs. Adolph Rick as interpreter, I had a conversation with

the King. There had been some stealing from the white people and Hawaiians resident on the Islands and I was requested to tell the King that unless he punished his people he must make good the loss; that he must have a good government and we would be good friends; that Mr. Rick was the representative of our government; that he must go to him if there was complaint made against Americans by his people and if Mr. Rick came to him with complaints made by Americans he must listen to him and attend to the business promptly. He returned my visit in the afternoon of the same day. I received him with the marine guard and entertained him. As the period of contagion of the measles had not passed I told him I could not show him all over the ship, as I had wished to do. As the special order for target practice had to be complied with and as this lagoon offered special facilities - the vessel lying over two miles from shore and the fall of the projectiles would be in twenty fathoms of water, so that they could not be recovered - I told him that I would fire at target the following Monday, when he said he would be delighted to have me do so as he and his people would like to see it and would not get in the way. The target practice resulted very favorably the unexploded shell falling in blue water from which they can never be recovered. The exercise ended with the explosion of a service torpedo, which delighted him very much. The Reception resulted in establishing good feeling with the King and he was profuse in his thanks for being permitted to see the firing and said he would be good friends with Americans. On leaving he insisted on making a very liberal present of cocoa-nuts to the crew, and he seemed to enjoy very much the scene as the men distributed the nuts and proceeded to eat them.

The visit of the Iroquois has made a very good impression on the

natives. They are very much in fear that some foreign government will take possession of the islands, as the Germans have of the Marshall Islands. There is constant visiting of the natives in boats they have purchased abroad, owned and sailed by native chiefs and thus information is carried from island to island.

Very respectfully

(Signed) Joshua Bishop.

Comdr. U.S.N. Commanding.

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BRAZIER, John. "Notes: Cruise of H.M.S. Blanche through
the South Sea Islands, May 12 - Nov. 15, 1872."

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ML B512

CAROLINE ISLANDS

1872

GILBERT ISLANDS

.....

Brazier, John - Notes: Cruise of H.M.S. Blanche through the South Sea Islands, May 12 - Nov. 15, 1872.

ML B512.

[H.M.S. Blanche, 6 guns, Capt. Cortland H. Simpson, left Sydney 12 May 1872 under sealed orders for the South Sea Islands to visit as many islands, beche de mer fisheries and pearl stations as possible, to obtain all reliable information with regard to British subjects reported murdered, the practice of skull hunting, treatment of islanders employed on fisheries and plantations, the practice of kidnapping, and to collect information on these and all other subjects of interest].

John Brazier, conchologist, C.M.Z.S. London, and John Duff, botanic collector, Botanic Gardens, Sydney, were on board as passengers.

1872, June 11. Sighted Malan or Strong's Island. Came to the anchorage at Coquille Harbour. Shortly after our arrival five or six canoes with natives came off with cocoa-nuts, fish and baked bread fruit, the trade required for these things were beads, Trousers, Shirts and hats. [Follows a description of the natural features of the island and its products].

June 14. Left the ship with Mr. Hartermann, a German, who has been living upon the island this last six years with his wife a Fiji woman...A great deal of the travelling is done by canoe ... native canals made by the ancient natives many years ago.

June 15. Cleared Coquille Harbour and steamed round to Chabrolle Island of Lilla or Leile. At this place the King and Queen lives, it is about 8 miles north of Coquille Harbour. I landed with Mr. Duff but we obtained nothing of any importance. This island of Lilla is of great importance as it is all walled in both by sea and inland. The old generation that have departed this life have been a greater and more powerful class of men than the present generation as these eminence (immense?) walls will show.

[Follows a description]... When this place was visited by Dumont d'Urville in 1829 the population was 3,000, and at the present time there are living on the whole of Strong Island only 150 of a population, and during my visit to a great many of the native houses I found one sick in one house and from 2 to 3 in others quite helpless, some going off in a decline and others with syphilis &c. Some 18 years ago the venereal disease was introduced among them and at this time it remains in their system never to be obliterated, but in their manner they are very good and kind to white people, they having always supplied us with bread-fruit and yams and taro. The King and Queen appear to be the most healthy on the island. Their principal trade is coccoanut oil. The King informed me that he had plenty of coccoa nuts to make into oil but in a very serious tone told me that he had no men to make it and as I should think that in about 6 years there will not be one living native on the island. The Missionary that visits ~~them~~ them is an American, the Rev. Mr. Snow. Their Mission house is well built with large glass windows. The King's mansion is also a well built house, the upright posts being mortised into the wall plates. They have separate house for the women to live in and built with more care and taste than those for the men to reside in. The flooring is made of bamboo. Bamusa of the thickness of one's thumb laid side by side then tyed with Coccoa nut fibre to be found in all houses. The women have a dress made with skirt and body all in one first tied round the neck with a drawing string and hanging loose all round the body from the neck. The men, that is, some of them, wear the English dress of shirt, trousers and coat and other of a poorer class have a pocket made of the Banna fibre to keep their person in and sodomy is carried to a frightful extent with both sexes ... We purchased 2 cows and one bullock from the King for 30 dollars £4 ster. I returned on board at 5 p.m. and left the ship to pay a visit to Mr. Hartermann to see his house. I should fancy that any man to leave his

native land to live in such an outlandish place is something strange a life that I should not prefer".

June 18... Sighted MacAskill Island, one of the Caroline Group ... landed in a native canoe. The island is composed of one mass of coral and very low with a great deal of vegetation, the principal being the cocoanut papa apple or mammy apple also a species of bread fruit that I have not noticed before - it is very soft and eaten raw and has a beautiful acrid flavour. The native houses are very poor - nothing like those at Strongs Island. These are built on three upright posts on each side with sides open and the roof thatched with cocoa nut leaves. Between the posts they have large logs of wood placed between each post - interior floor of coral divided into sections with large logs between these sections - they have mats laid both to lounge and sleep on - they have small houses built with the sides front and end of cocoa nut with the roof of an oval, for with a small hole for a door these houses are expressly built for the fair sex to be placed in during certain seasons of the year. From what I saw I should think them a very prolific race by the number of children seen and to all appearances they are of a very lustful nature - the men are strong and well built, the women are something of the same but much shorter in an average 4 to 5 feet - we also find a white man on shore, an Englishman quite degrading to the name to live with such a class of human beings - he has been 4 months on the island collecting trade - that is, cocoa nut oil and copra ... he is collecting this for the notorious Captain Hayes who appears to have the whole and sole control of the North Pacific Islands. The stench upon landing is most abominable as they excrement about in all directions some distance above high water mark. They don't understand the use of firearms as I saw none in their possession. They have the same idea as the Strong Island natives of wanting to know your name and if they ask

you once they ask you 50 times. The two that took me and Mr. Duff on shore enquired for our names ... and all canoes we passed in going ashore they asked our rowers what our names were ... The chiefs appear to be very greedy as the quantity of beads, pipes, fish hooks and tobacco supplied to them did not satisfy them and we got nothing from them. The common people were quite different - it was a few beads for a duck, a large fish hook for 12 cocoa nuts. The island we landed on has a population of 1100 and the smaller island connected by a reef to the large one about 1 mile long, population 200".

June 20. Came to an anchorage at the Island of Ponape or Ascension in the Harbour of Kitte (?). It is one that is well sheltered by reef of coral all round. Mr. Duff and self took a canoe with two natives and went on shore and took a look through the country inland for two miles. I made friends with one native in particular who welcomed me to his house and gave me the invitation to come next day to his house. [Follows a description of the house].

June 21. Proceeded with the brother of my friend to his place ... Upon our return to his house he had prepared a meal for us of Boiled fowl and bread fruit, and I really did enjoy it, for the bread fruit resembled in taste our potatoes ... I found all the people that I visited to kind and hospitable. Manilla man was 20 years on Isld.....

June 22. Visited the residence of Mr. Smith by going up a fine fresh water river ... At his house I saw at least 6 other Europeans and an enumerable number of half cast by fathers of English, German, American, and in fact all parentage. The language used is disgusting and beyond all description. The white I consider in these and other islands are worse than the natives for they traffic their women or their wife as they term it to others, and ~~live~~ live in a state of adultery and concubinage and debauchery. It is

impossible to conceive how an Englishmen really can be so low and degraded. Some have been here 20[&] 25 years. This man Smith is acting agent in collecting trade for the Messrs. Goderfrey of Hamburg and their vessels was lying at anchor to take what trade he had collected up to the head quarters Upolu, Navigators Island and from there in larger vessels to Hamburg ... The old King appears to be under the control of the whites - they can do what they like with him.

June 24. Made the Island of Narack (Ngatik) or the Raven Islands - they are composed of 9 small coral islands all connected by coral reefs resembling atolls. A white man came off, said that he was an American and that he had been 20 year upon it collecting cocoa nut oil and copra or tack a tack.

June 26. Sighted another of the group which proved to be Lugunor Island, one of the Mortlock Group - A canoe came off to us at least 10 miles from the land. [Follows a description of shells collected].

June 27. I went on shore in a canoe and remained until sunset ... the natives proved to be as kind and sociable as other that we have seen in the group. Their houses are of a more rude construction than others previously seen.

June 28. Visited the greater part of the villages and in some I found men well up in years, I should think from 60 to 70, their clothing being very scant, made like a pouch, but in cases of going out in the sun they have two mats sewed together that reach to their feet with their head through the centre resembling a shirt without the sleeves or the sides sown up. They appear to be a very intelligent race as they soon picked our English language ... Their moral character is one of the best and a pattern to Europeans. They keep their women out of sight in well built houses made of very light wood of the thickness of one's finger, and in one end they have the opening 2 feet wide ^{and} 2 to 3 feet high. The door or slide is

of thick hard wood. In going through the various villages you would see the doors open but upon nearing them they were closed. I found that after passing they would come out and look after us. [Follows a description of the women's dress and of the dyes made and used]. They have plenty of fowls, in fact they fly about like pigeons, and bread fruit in great abundance, the species that may be eaten raw - it resembles so much chewed cotton when eating it - its flavour is of a rather tartish taste. Cocoa nuts in great abundance, bananas or plantains they have very few of. Their sea going canoes are strong and well built drawing from 3 to 4 feet water and in these they go from Island to Island with their mat sail, being on the whole rather venturesome navigators. [Description of small canoes follows].

June 29. The natives came off to us with a few fowls and nuts and shells. Upon my showing over the side of the vessel my name was repeatedly called out, as they told me they had shells - these they would not let any other have. At 8 a.m. we weighed anchor and steamed out with great numbers of canoes to see us off and to add to the excitement some of the boys came off on bits of flat wood, resting their abdomen on it and propelling it by using their hands and feet - some came off only on the outrigger of a canoe. The visit of the Blanche will be remembered by them for many years to come - they bid us all goodbye and extremely sorry for us leaving them.

July 1. Under steam and sail for the Hogolou Group. At 6.30 p.m. we came to anchor under the island of Tsis in Rook Group, Caroline Islands.

July 2. Morning fine but no canoes came off - during the night previous the natives left the island of Tsis and went to the larger island Hogolou. At 10 a.m. Capt. Simpson, the master Mr. Greet and Lieut. Praid left the vessel and landed on Tsis and walked over to the east side and the Blanche Galley went round to meet them on their return. They met with a

lot of canoes with natives who appeared to be very much afraid. The Captain returned again in about an hour with a great number of canoes after him - a squall of rain coming on the natives beat a retreat to the larger island. At 2 p.m. Mr. Duff and myself went on shore on Tsis Island. I did not like to land as the natives did not show out to the ship which is always considered a bad sign ... I found their houses deserted and their cooked bread fruit they had also left behind them.

July 3. This morning at 9 a.m. one canoe appeared, coming round round the west end of Tsis - they ventured out, then returned - then presently five more showed out and at last they ventured alongside - in some of their canoes they had some bananas, fowls, taro and a good supply of stones and slings. They mustered at least 200 men - some of their canoes contained 20 men, that was the largest canoe that came off - others of smaller size held 5, 10 to 15 - their spears were of a very rude make, being only a plain piece of wood pointed - in a few that I saw were barbed with bone - we got three of the natives enticed on board so as to show them round. Upon coming on deck they took up the oil and brick dust and commenced to clean the brass work. After a look round they soon returned to their canoes - their ears were ornamented with rings made both of coco nut shell and tortose shell and the same material made into very fine necklaces, and to all appearance they are not very prepossessing like the inhabitants of the other islands visited by us - they look more savage and determined. They were eager for barter such as beads, knives and fish hooks. The only dress they wear is a piece of matting thrown over their shoulders and others go entirely naked - upon the word of clear lower deck to get up anchor the natives cleared away from the ship just the same as if we had sent a shot among them. They no doubt put us down for some evil spirit on account of us going through the water without the use of sails ... We left at 11 a.m. for

the Solomon Islands. [They visited St. Matthias, New Hanover, Duke of York Island, New Britain, Florida, Ysabel, Rendova, Rubiana, Treasury Island, &c.]

Sept. 6. Sighted Strong's Island and came to anchor in Chabrolle Harbour - landed upon the small island to see the King - We found the barque, Tasso from Sydney with our coals & mails.

Sept. 17 Left Chabrolle Harbour, Strong's Island, towing the barque Tasso and the schooner Tawan, the former bound to Newcastle, the latter for Ponope.

Sept. 23. Anchored at Arrowsmith and I went on shore in a canoe. [Collecting this and following days]. The natives do not understand but very little English, but at the same time they are great Jews - if you go up a cocoa nut tree for nuts they wish to be paid for it - terms that I did not consider right - all that they live upon is cocoa nuts, pandanus, bread fruit and raw fish - they have in store a quantity of dried cocoa nut called copra, waiting to be taken off by some trader - the live stock they have are Muskovey ducks, turkeys and a few fowls - they collect the palm wine from the cocoa nut tree.

Sept. 28. Came to anchor at Bonham. Mr. Duff and self landed in a canoe... the natives are very peculiar in their ways - if you ask them for cocoa nuts they will sell say two for one dollar 4/-, their fowls and ducks they want the same.

Sept. 29. [Record⁵ the death of Lieut. Smith].

Oct. 1. Left Bonham for Ebon.

Oct. 2. Anchored at Ebon, off the American missionary station. I landed as soon as possible in a native canoe. They have the cheek to ask you to give them 2/- whereas you should not pay them anything as it takes you all your time to bail out their canoes to keep them afloat and get yourself wet into the bargain. They are the most fickle minded in their articles of trade -

first they will ask for dollars for their mats and by the time you are thinking over it they don't want it, but coats or shirts, as they call it (Nuc a Nuck) - of English money they take half a crown 2/6 for half a dollar 2/- - Gold they don't believe in - our penneys they don't believe that 12 of them go to ^athe shilling. One woman that I met and in conversation I found her to be very cute in her knowledge of English. The Assistant Paymaster, Mr Kay, offered her a ring made of brass well lackered over with chloride of gold, when she told him it was now good it was all the same as copper - when he tried to persuade her that it was genuine she said that he lied and repeated the same thing over 3 or 4 times. The Missionary have taught them what dollars are but they ask more for their goods than they really will get. Another thing the Missions would pay far better if they would learn them to work and dispense with a little of their prayer meeting so much in the day time and reserve it for the evening. They have a very fine pathway through the Island - bread fruit trees are plentiful. Papua apples have been introduced from other Islds, also Bananas. I also observed 3 Trees of the edible fig Moral character good.

Oct. 4 - Left Ebon for the Gilbert or Kingsmills.

Oct. 10 - Came to anchor at Tarawa 3 mile from the shore.

Oct. 11 - Landed found the natives very friendly. The island is low and the natives have sunk great pits in the centre so as to obtain water. Their food is fish, cocoa nuts, and their drink made from that tree called by them Ticke ruru, which is a very nice drink but too sweet more like syrup They had an American missionary stationed with them some few years ago, when they burnt and destroyed everything he had - The American warship the Jamestown went to make enquiries about the burning, when a treatie was made that a certain amount of cocoanut oil as an indemnity for the mission property

destroyed. It turned out that they did not head the ~~triple~~ treatie but left the island and went to another. The American Government sent the Naraganset war ship to take them off the island and bring them back to their own - they are in a fair way of paying off the debt. When we landed they enquired if our ship was a Kibucki, Man of War. We told them that it was and came from England. Some of them put off in their canoes for the ship with cocoa nuts & fowls - at the same time they are in great dread of a war ship

Oct. 12. The natives came off in great numbers bringing nuts, fowls, mats, ticke ruru and the same spirit boiled in cocoa nut shells which they call ticke Momi - it is very good, and resembles very dark honey.

Oct. 18. I went on shore with Mr Duff in a canoe - we paid a visit to one of the chiefs who had received us upon our landing the first day. He lived in a very large house raised 4 feet from the ground with the whole of the side and ends open to the weather. At night and in wet weather the sides and ends are hung round. At night they put them up - the whole of the house is built of cocoa nut even to the thatching of the roof

Oct. 22. Sighted Drummond's Island. Natives came off in the canoes under sail in great numbers bringing mats, armour & cocoanuts

In the afternoon I landed The natives don't appear to be much more civilized at the present - they are the same as when I saw them in 1855 - the men, the greater part of them, are quite nude ... the women have a little clothing round the loins made of leaves - There is a native from the Sandwich Islands from the American Missionary Society, but what I have seen they don't improve much. There is 3 white men on it getting cocoa nut oil - one of them is an Irishman - came off to the ship, not a very prepossessing individual, with some great stories. One was that 45 natives had been taken off the island,

~~another that they've~~

another that they, the whites, had quarreled among themselves and threatened to shoot one another. The one that came off to us was a most repulsive looking villan that I ever saw - a little of his conversation dwelt upon females - he said that it was a bad thing to have two women, but at the same time he did have two - one he kept cloathed, the other with only a bit of cloth round the loin. The one with no clothes tore the clothes off the other. He informed us that 3 white men had been murdered at Sydenham Island.

Oct. 23. Left Drummond I. for Sydnehams I. Anchored at 4 p.m. Sent a boat away to take soundings further in shore.

Oct. 24. Sent two boats to the shore, well armed The natives flocked down with mats, shells & cocoa nuts for trading, a very sure sign that they had not been killing any white men - it has always been proved that when blacks kill any white men they are not to be seen when a man-of war shows in sight, but in this case the natives came off in their canoes to us and ~~traded~~ traded. In return for their goods we gave them a good supply of tobacco. The boats returned at 12 and at 2 p.m. we got under way and left for Sydney."

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Excerpts from the 'Fiji Times'

1870 - 1873

relating to Micronesia or the Ellice Islands.

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Made by Miss I. Leeson from the

Mitchell Library set.

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- (1) Movements of labour and trading vessels 1870-73.
- (2) Carl in Carolines and Nauru 1871.
- (3) H.B.M.S. Cossack for Gilberts 1872.
- (4) Nalimu's complaints re kidnapping at Tabiteuea 1872.
- (5) Murders at Nonouti 1872.
- (6) H.M.S. Barossa in Marshalls 1872.
- (7) H.M.S. Basilisk in Ellice 1872.
- (8) H.M.S. Blanche in Micronesia 1872.
- (9) H.M. schooner Alacrity in Micronesia 1873.
- (10) H.M.S. Dido for Gilberts 1873.

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Excerpts from the Fiji Times, made by Miss Ida Leeson.

Fiji Times.

1870 Sept. 24 - Ketch Jupiter from the Line Islands, 20 Sept. Left Tarewa (Gilbert Group) Aug. 22nd. In search of labour visited Oaitapu, Speiden, Anirai, Omutu, Clark's, Byron's, Drummond, Nauouti, Woodle, Maina and Tarawa Islands. She brings 44 labourers; one native of Drummond I^l. died on 27th Aug., having been ailing for some days. The Jupiter proceeds to Nandi with her passengers.

The Magellan Cloud is only 12 days from Clark's Island, having been absent from this port three months; she brings 57 labourers. The day before arrival one of the hands died of consumption, the funeral service was read by the Captain. Mr. Emberson, the charterer, accompanied the vessel, and seems glad the trip is over. He reports labour very scarce.

(H. Emberson & Co., merchants & Commission agents, Levuka).

1870 Dec. 17 - Labour² Vessels - Lulu, schooner, left for Line Islands
Oct. 26.

1871, Jan. 7 - The Oriti arrived 5 Jan. from the Line Islands. She has been away from here nearly 4 months and has been very unfortunate, bringing only 23 laborers, mostly women.

1871 Feb. 15 - Oriti sailed for Line Is. Feb. 7.

1871 May 17 - Waiau - cutter, left Pleasant Island Apr. 13. She brings 21 laborers.

1871 Dec. 2 - Cutter Frolic returned from a labor cruise amongst the Line Islands..... There were n^ot any disturbances amongst the natives. The Frolic brings a fine lot of 31 foreign laborers of both sexes, who have been engaged for a term of three years.

1871 Dec. 13 - The brig Carl, recently arrived from a labor cruise,

reports as follows went on to Line Islands and recruited ship; natives speaking English; thence to McGaskall's Island; and from that to Pleasant Island, where four whaleboats paddled by natives, went off to the vessel; three white men slept ashore in the house of a white resident of whom there are several; house was cased round inside with plates of iron, such as are used for building iron vessels; and the house was plentifully furnished with various descriptions of fire arms. Next morning natives came off in great numbers to trade, and crowded the Carl's deck. A white man also came off; and from the behaviour of the natives and white man, it was feared an attempt was about to be made to take the vessel; the canoes were at once cut adrift, the crew remaining prepared to resist any attack. On this island the Carl reports several wrecks, one an iron vessel; thence she proceeded to islands north of Santa, where natives reported that a large vessel had shortly before fired on them; thence to Apia, where Dr. Murray remained for the purpose of settling. Here met a Brisbane schooner which had also been at Pleasant Island, and she also spoke of the treacherous character of the natives".

1871 Dec. 23 - The ketch Trent left port, Dec. 22, on a cruise to the Line Islands, Her principal object is to trade for oil, shell and other produce. She will also bring up any men who may be willing to engage as laborers for Fiji.

1871 Dec. 30 - The schooner Rifle arrived 27th, from Apia via Ellice Islands... Touched at Clark's Island where the natives reported that two ketches from Fiji had called in. Between Drummond's and Clark's Island passed an immense school of sperm whales... The Rifle reports the barque Fiara and the brig Lady Alicia at the Kingsmill Islands on a trading cruise.

1872, Aug. 17, p.4. "H.B.M.S. Cossack will leave today for a short cruise. We believe that her present destination is Gilbert Islands, and that she may be absent from our port for about two weeks".

1872, Aug. 28, p.4. "Mr. H.B. Nalimu, Hawaiian missionary, stationed on the southern portion of Drummond's Island (Tapiteua) writes to Honolulu via Sydney. He says some of the men of Tapiteua have been stolen. Their number is 20. Their children are crying for them. It is the work of a man-stealing vessel from Fiji. Look ye after this evil work. The Rev. W.B. Kapu, in a letter to the Rev. Mr. Bingham, dated 24 Feb. 1871, confirms this bad news. The Hawaiian Gazette of the 3rd July is responsible for this statement".

1872 Sept. 25, p.4 - Murders at the Line Islands; Declaration by Captain Thomas Stubb Brown, Dancing Wave, schooner, re murder of three of his ship's company in August at Nanbuti or Lydenham's Islands.

1872, Oct. 12 - The E.K. Bateson arrived at Levuka and Capt. Keats reported on cruising in the Ellices, Kingsmill and Marshall Groups. H.M.S. Barossa was at the Marshall Group in May, and succeeded in rescuing five shipwrecked seamen from the natives who had been cast away on one of the islands. Saw the cutter Frolic and the Julia Price of Auckland in the Kingsmills, on the 16th June, in search of labor, both vessels being duly licensed by the Fiji Government, and the latter fitted up for passengers in a manner that would do credit to many emigrant ships. H.M.S. Basilisk was at Nukufetau, one of the Ellices, on 17th July, and after overhauling a suspicious looking craft which came cruising along the island after dark, continued her voyage in search of man stealers.

1872 Dec. 25, p.3 - [Extract from Cruise of H.M.S. Blanche]. "At Lugunor Island, Caroline Group, where it is doubtful if any white men had been there for years, as no sign of traffic was found, the men wore their

hair in regular English fashion, chignons being commonest, which were kept up by a comb having four teeth; the top part of the comb that was visible being carved, and the whole surmounted with a cock's feather, it gave them rather an effeminate appearance. At Hogolu Islands, Caroline Group, the natives were very much frightened, having entirely deserted during the night the village off which the Blanche anchored. The next day, seeing a number of canoes collected together, a boat was sent to endeavor to persuade them to come alongside and barter. After a time the boat succeeded in getting amongst them. They were all quite naked, painted in regular savage style, and the boats loaded with spears, slings and stones. They eventually came alongside, and were very friendly.... At Bonham Island, Marshall Group, Lieutenant F.A. Smith died of remittent fever after a few days' illness; he was buried on shore with the usual salute of three volleys in the native cemetery; and the ship was detained while the carpenter made a headstone of wood for his grave. His loss was much felt".

1872 Dec. 25, p.4 - The Blanche reported the schooner Ida on 8 Oct., had been trading among the Marshall Islands. Traveller, schooner, was reported as being on the Line in August.

1873, Aug. 13 - H.M. schooner Alacrity returned to Levuka, Aug. 9. Her trip to the Gilbert and Marshall Groups of islands with return Carl labor having occupied seven weeks. The Alacrity left the Yasawas on 19th June with 27 Carl kidnapped laborers on board, reached Drummond Island in the Gilbert Group on 28th June, Miana on 1st July and Milli, in the Marshall Group on 5th July, having accomplished the 1500 miles in 16 days, including stoppages to land labor at five different towns. The Carl laborers were all safely returned to their several homes.... Mr. H. Britton, of the Melbourne Argus, was a passenger in the Alacrity throughout the cruise, and having now completed his enquiries re the

labor traffic he returns to Australia by H.B.M.S. Clio.

1873, Aug. 16 - H.B.M. Schooner Conflict returned from Mokogai, Aug. 13, bringing a number of the Carl laborers over for transhipment to the Dido, which will probably leave today for a lengthy cruise amongst the Solomon, Gilbert and other islands.

1873, Aug. 20 - Dido sailed yesterday for a lengthened cruise. She takes a number of the Carl natives to their homes, and will visit the Gilbert, Caroline and Solomon Islands.

This is the last reference in the Fiji Times to the end of 1873, where the early Mitchell file ends.

Labour Trade, Gilbert Islands. Statement of Walter Oates, Mate of the Mearoa, on three voyages to the Gilbert and Solomon Islands, etc., recruiting labourers for Tahiti, 1869-70, with account of the vessels (about 40) engaged in the traffic. Dated Sydney, Nov. 20, 1871.

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Copy in File No. 1

Detective Office, Sydney,

18th November 1871.

Walter Oates, Seaman late of the brig "Aurora" states that he entered the service of William Stewart of Tahiti, or Ferranguine [?], name of plantation in year 1865 as Mate of the Ship Mearoa. She flew a French Colonial Ensign, she was in the labour trade ~~to~~ to Gilbert's Group, - The first Island we touched at was Mucknow, we stayed there off and on 5 days, we got five natives willingly, from there we went to Peru in the Gilbert Group. Went on shore to the King with Interpreter called Sunday and asked him if he would give us some natives, the King said he would not, if you take them you will never bring them back again, the Captain, Charles Steenalt, said he would give him three days to consider and if he did not give them, he would take them, we had a gendarme named Du Lauder on board at the time, on the third day the gendarme said he would not go on shore, he would stop on board and let the Captain go to see if he could get any natives as he was getting tired waiting, for he wanted to get the ship filled quick, so that he could get back, the Captain then went on shore, he stopped ashore about five hours, then came on board with 37 natives, the men all told me that they had great sport in the bush catching them and making them fast, these natives were confined down below under lock and key. Next day boats went on shore and brought on board ^{fifteen} 15 natives, taken in the same way as the others, Next day boats went on shore and took ~~7/10/71~~

seven more natives, the Captain said "I think we had better clear now for they are getting too wide awake. Vessel proceeded to the Island Onotow, four boats went on shore during the night surprised the natives when they were asleep, made 87 men and women fast, took them on board,. Next day vessel sailed for Tamana in the same group, boats went on shore, but the natives would not allow us to land, boats returned to ship, the Ship was standing off and on the Island, 3 large canoes came alongside to sell fowls and cocoanuts there were about 30 Natives in each canoe, we lowered a boat on the other side pulled round gently, capsized the canoes, and took the natives in the boat, and made them all fast and put them down below. Vessel proceeded to Arour, Gilbert's Group, boat went on shore, the men on the Island were very frightened seeing the men all around, they said "Do not hurt us and you can steal all the women you like so long as you make them fast, 38 young women were all made fast by the hair of the head and led into the boat and taken on board the ship, we then sailed for Tapitula, Gilbert Group, capsized some canoes and took the natives on board, we then sailed for Tahiti, the natives were kept down below for six weeks, never allowed to come on deck till sickness broke out amongst them, dying on an average 5 a day, they were all told not to speak about being kidnapped, if they did speak they would get killed, just before we got to Tahiti, the natives had to sign an agreement for five years in fact they were forced to sign the paper. when they arrived in Tahiti they were all marched ashore and put to work on the plantation at wages from 1\$ to 3\$ per month.

Second Voyage.

I made a second voyage in same ship to the same group of Islands as before, the natives were obtained the same way, procured 235 natives,

a gendarme accompanied the ship this voyage also but did not go on shore.

Third Voyage.

On my return to Tahiti, I shipped in the Schooner Eugene belonging to the same man and sailed by Capt. Snider to the same Group of Islands, and Marshall Group this voyage, three ships sailed in company, viz, the "Prince Alfred" of Auckland, and the "Midge" of Auckland, the two latter vessels were chartered by Stewart, this voyage we went to Pleasant Island and Ocean Island and bought natives there giving for each 10 natives one musket, the natives were procured by the crew of the Eugene assisted by the crews of the other Vessels, and when a sufficient number was got, about 500, they were taken on board the ~~the~~ "Prince Alfred" and "Midge" and those ships sailed for Taiti with them, the Eugene sailed for Noumea, New Caledonia, where I left her. The three voyages I made extended over a period of 22 months, I was employed on Stewart's plantation, overseer over the natives, I then came on to Sydney where I shipped on board the "Aurora" Brig to Solomon Group on a trading voyage, where I arrived the latter end of May this year. We first went to the Island of Guadalcanar, in the Solomon Group, when on the east side of the Island I saw what I took to be a Vessel coming down before the wind ~~at the~~ from the direction of St Kruiz, we attempted to cross her bow in a boat to see if she would heave to to get news, she hauled on a wind having the boat I ~~was~~ was in in her wake, she was then 20 fathoms ahead of us, I saw she had no name on her stern, no men on deck, and no colours, I then saw she was a high pressure screw steamer, about 90 tons painted black, rigged topsail schooner, we heard from the natives of that Island that this steamer had been sending on shore and stealing natives during the night, about a week after that we sighted her again, tried to cut her off with out Vessel, hoisted colours and received no answer, she sailed a way in a different

direction. We then went up to St Christoval, Solomon Group, the natives there told us that the same vessel had stolen 30 men from the village of Hononow, and committed similar depredations up the Coast, we saw nothing more of this Vessel. Some of the natives of St Christoval can speak English, I never knew a native interpreter who could interpret the language of each of the islands as they are all different. I have found that natives are brought from the North West and landed in the Southern Islands by European Vessels who are trading for tortoiseshell or other produce, by this means they enforce trade, and the skulls go as payment to the natives in return for services. I have never heard of a white man taking part in procuring the skulls otherwise than bringing the natives from the North West to the South, and taking the natives back with the skulls to the North West. The only large black brig I know to be in the Labour Trade was the ~~the~~ "Waterlily", she was sailed at that time by George Peas formerly a Lieutenant in the American Navy, she was an armed vessel carrying six 5 or 6 pounder guns. To the best of my belief there is at present about 40 sail of vessels in the Pacific Ocean Labour Trade, kidnapping and blackbirding for the various plantations in Fiji, Taiti, Queensland, Tanna and Noumea, New Caledonia, previous to leaving Sydney in the Aurora, there were a number of natives on board acting as seamen belonging to the Solomon Group, they were transferred from that ship to the "Kate Carney" belonging to the same owners, and ~~that~~ a number from the "Kate Carney" belonging to the New Hebrides were put on board the "Aurora" on the pretence of being taken to their own homes. 4 deserted and 2 are now on board the Melanie belonging to the same owner.

(Sd) Walter Oates.

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