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### **A Voyage Towards The South Pole, And Round The World**

Performed In His Majesty's Ships the Resolution and Adventure, In the  
Years 1772, 1773, 1774, and 1775 ; In Two Volumes

**Cook, James  
Furneaux, ...**

**London, 1777**

Chap. X. Departure from the Marquesas; a Description of the Situation,  
Extent, Figur, and Appearance of the several Islands; with some Account  
of the Inhabitants, their Customs; Dress, Habitants, ...

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where our wants might be effectually relieved. For after having been nineteen weeks at sea, and living all the time upon salt diet, we could not but want some refreshments; although I must own, and that with pleasure, that on our arrival here, it could hardly be said we had one sick man; and but a few who had the least complaint. This was undoubtedly owing to the many antiscorbutic articles we had on board, and to the great attention of the surgeon, who was remarkably careful to apply them in time.

1774.  
April.  
Monday 11.

## C H A P. X.

*Departure from the Marquesas; a Description of the Situation, Extent, Figure, and Appearance of the several Islands; with some Account of the Inhabitants, their Customs, Dress, Habitations, Food, Weapons, and Canoes.*

AT three o'clock in the afternoon we weighed, and stood over from St. Christina for La Dominica, in order to take view of the west side of that isle; but, as it was dark before we reached it, the night was spent in plying between the two isles. The next morning we had a full view of the S. W. point, from which the coast trended N. E.; so that it was not probable we should find good anchorage on that side, as being exposed to the easterly winds. We had now but little wind, and that very variable, with showers of rain. At length we got a breeze at E. N. E. with which we steered to the South. At five o'clock in the P. M., Resolution Bay

Monday 11.

Tuesday 12.





1774  
 April.  
 Tuesday 12.

bore E. N. E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  E. distant five leagues, and the island Magdalena S. E., about nine leagues distant. This was the only sight we had of this isle. From hence I steered S. S. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W. for Otaheite, with a view of falling in with some of those isles discovered by former navigators, especially those discovered by the Dutch, whose situations are not well determined.

But it will be necessary to return to the Marquesas; which were, as I have already observed, first discovered by Mendana a Spaniard, and from him obtained the general name they now bear, as well as those of the different isles. The nautical account of them, in Mr. Dalrymple's Collection of Voyages to the South Seas\*, is deficient in nothing but situation. This was my chief reason for touching at them; the settling this point is the more useful, as it will, in a great measure, fix the situations of Mendana's other discoveries.

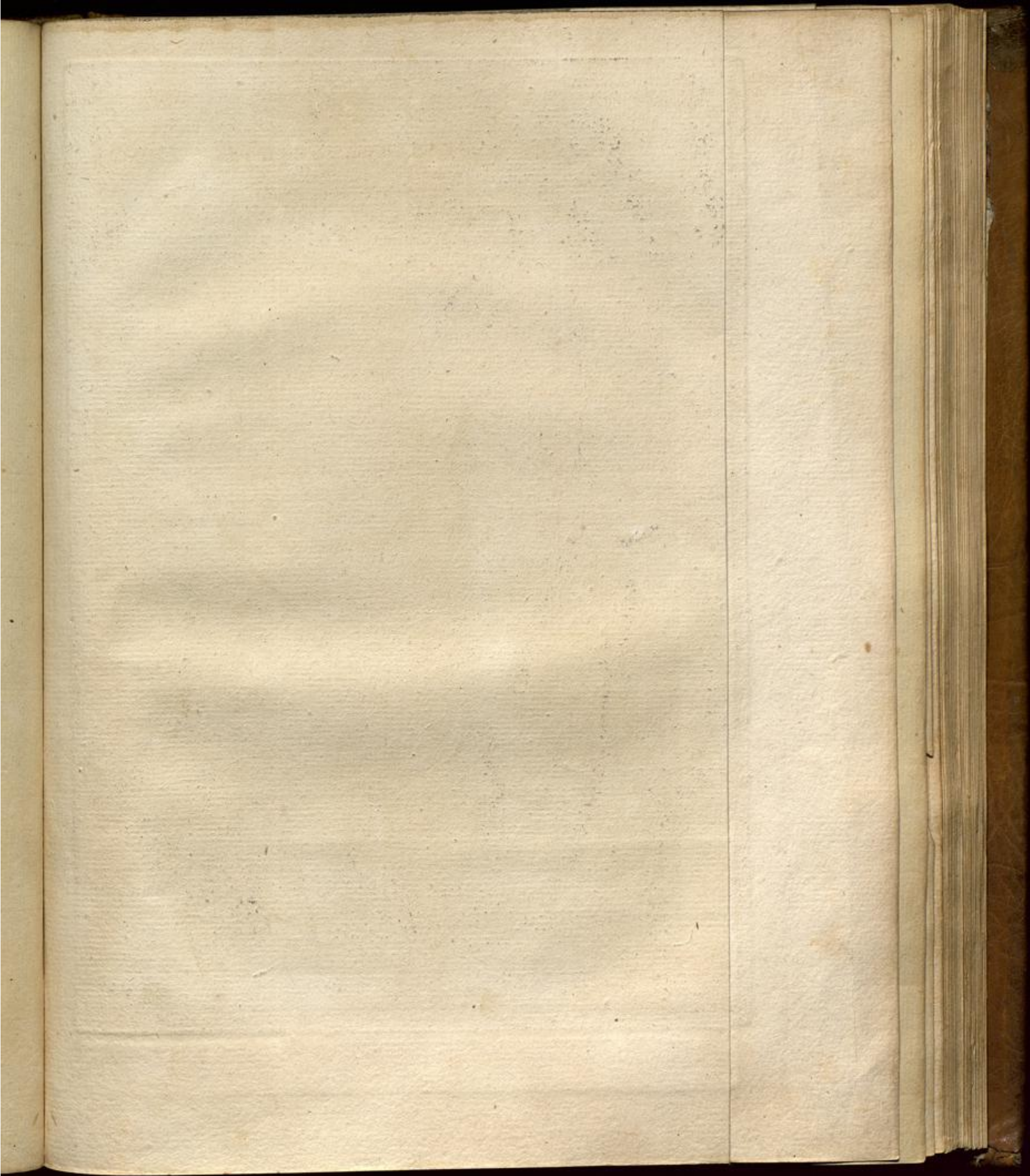
The Marquesas are five in number, viz. La Magdalena, St. Pedro, La Dominica, Santa Christina, and Hood's Island, which is the northernmost, situated in latitude  $9^{\circ} 26'$  South, and N.  $13^{\circ}$  West, five leagues and a half distant, from the East point of La Dominica, which is the largest of all the isles, extending East and West six leagues. It hath an unequal breadth, and is about fifteen or sixteen leagues in circuit. It is full of rugged hills rising in ridges directly from the sea; these ridges are disjoined by deep vallies, which are clothed with wood, as are the sides of some of the hills; the aspect is, however, barren; but it is, nevertheless, inhabited, Latitude  $9^{\circ} 44' 30''$  South. St. Pedro, which is about three leagues in circuit, and of a good height, lies South, four

\* Vol. I. p. 61. to 73.

leagues









Drawn from Nature by W. Hodges.

RESOLUTION BAY IN THE MARQUESAS.

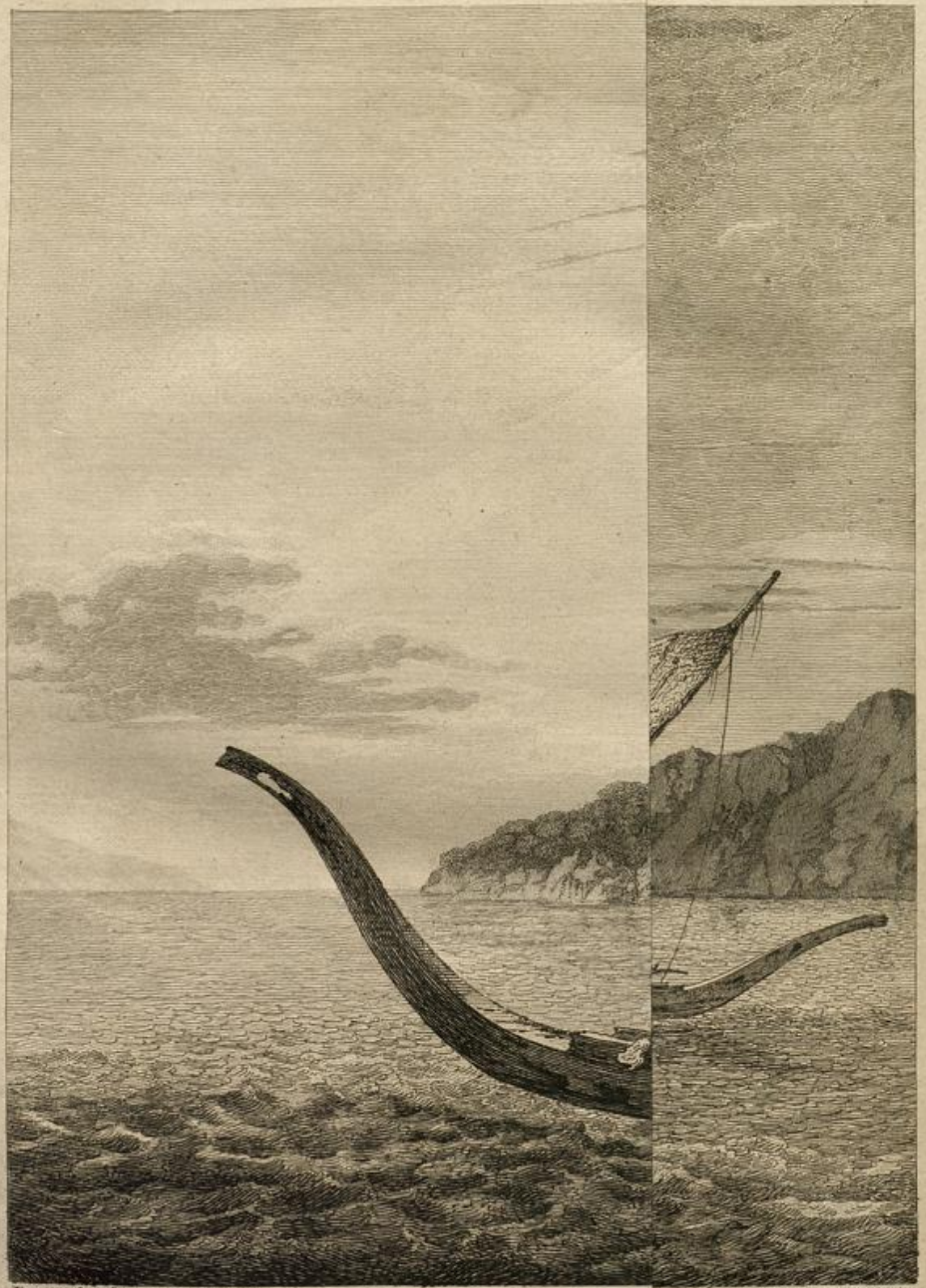
*Published 1817 by W. Doolittle at the Great Street Lane & The Golden in the Strand London*

Engraved by R. T. Poirer  
N° XXXIII



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Drawn from Nature by W.Hodges.

Engraved by B.T.Pouney  
N<sup>o</sup> XXXIII

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leagues and an half from the East end of La Dominica: we know not if it be inhabited. Nature has not been very bountiful to it. St. Christina lies under the same parallel, three or four leagues more to the West. This island stretches North and South, is nine miles long in that direction, and about seven leagues in circuit. A narrow ridge of hills of considerable height extends the whole length of the island. There are other ridges, which, rising from the sea, and with an equal ascent, join the main ridge. These are disjoined by deep narrow vallies, which are fertile, adorned with fruit and other trees, and watered by fine streams of excellent water. La Magdalena we only saw at a distance. Its situation must be nearly in the latitude of  $10^{\circ} 25'$ , longitude  $138^{\circ} 50'$ . So that these isles occupy one degree in latitude, and near half a degree in longitude, viz. from  $138^{\circ} 47'$  to  $139^{\circ} 13'$  West, which is the longitude of the West end of La Dominica.

1774.  
April.

The port of Madre de Dios, which I named Resolution Bay, is situated near the middle of the West side of St. Christina, and under the highest land in the island, in latitude  $9^{\circ} 55' 30''$ , longitude  $139^{\circ} 8' 40''$  West; and N.  $15'$  W. from the West end of La Dominica. The South point of the bay is a steep rock of considerable height, terminating at the top in a peaked hill, above which you will see a path-way leading up a narrow ridge to the summits of the hills. The North point is not so high, and rises with a more gentle slope. They are a mile from each other, in the direction of N. by E. and S. by W. In the bay, which is near three quarters of a mile deep, and has from thirty-four to twelve fathoms water, with a clean sandy bottom, are two sandy coves, divided from each other by a rocky point. In each is a rivulet of

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excellent





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April.

excellent water. The northern cove is the most commodious for wooding and watering. Here is the little waterfall mentioned by Quiros, Mendana's pilot; but the town, or village, is in the other cove. There are several other coves, or bays, on this side of the island; and some of them, especially to the northward, may be mistaken for this; therefore, the best direction is the bearing of the West end of La Dominica.

The trees, plants, and other productions of these isles, so far as we know, are nearly the same as at Otaheite and the Society Isles. The refreshments to be got are hogs, fowls, plantains, yams, and some other roots; likewise bread-fruit and cocoa-nuts, but of these not many. At first these articles were purchased with nails. Beads, looking-glasses, and such trifles, which are so highly valued at the Society Isles, are in no esteem here; and even nails, at last, lost their value for other articles far less useful.

The inhabitants of these islands, collectively, are without exception the finest race of people in this sea. For fine shape and regular features, they perhaps surpass all other nations. Nevertheless, the affinity of their language to that spoken in Otaheite and the Society Isles, shews that they are of the same nation. Oedidee could converse with them tolerably well, though *we* could not; but it was easy to see that their language was nearly the same.

The men are punctured, or curiously *tattooed*, from head to foot. The figures are various, and seem to be directed more by fancy than custom. These punctuations make them look dark; but the women, who are but little punctured, youths, and young children who are not at all, are as

fair





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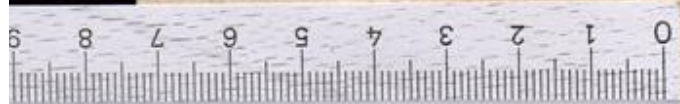


Drawn from Nature by W. Hodges.

WOMAN OF ST<sup>A</sup>. CHRISTINA.

*Published Feb<sup>r</sup>. 1<sup>o</sup>. 1777 by W<sup>m</sup>. Strahan in New Street Shoe Lane & Tho<sup>s</sup>. Cadell in the Strand London.*

Engravd by J. Hall  
N<sup>o</sup>. XXXVII





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fair as some Europeans. The men are, in general, tall; that is, about five feet ten inches or six feet; but I saw none that were fat and lusty like the *Earees* of Otaheite; nor did I see any that could be called meagre. Their teeth are not so good, nor are their eyes so full and lively as those of many other nations. Their hair, like ours, is of many colours, except red, of which I saw none. Some have it long; but the most general custom is to wear it short, except a bunch on each side of the crown, which they tie in a knot. They observe different modes in trimming the beard, which is, in general, long. Some part it, and tie it in two bunches under the chin; others plait it; some wear it loose; and others quite short.

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Their cloathing is the same as at Otaheite, and made of the same materials; but they have it not in such plenty, nor is it so good. The men, for the most part, have nothing to cover their nakedness, except the *Marra*, as it is called at Otaheite; which is a slip of cloth passed round the waist and betwixt the legs. This simple dress is quite sufficient for the climate, and answers every purpose modesty requires. The dress of the women is a piece of cloth, wrapped round the loins like a petticoat, which reaches down below the middle of the leg, and a loose mantle over their shoulders. Their principal head-dress, and what appears to be their chief ornament, is a sort of broad fillet, curiously made of the fibres of the husk of cocoa-nuts. In the front is fixed a mother-of-pearl shell wrought round to the size of a tea saucer. Before that, another, smaller, of very fine tortoise-shell, perforated into curious figures. Also before, and in the center of that, is another round piece of mother-of-pearl, about the size of half a crown; and before this another piece of perforated tortoise-shell!





1774.  
April.

shell the size of a shilling. Besides this decoration in front, some have it also on each side, but in smaller pieces; and all have fixed to them the tail-feathers of cocks or tropic birds, which, when the fillet is tied on, stand upright; so that the whole together makes a very sightly ornament. They wear round the neck a kind of ruff or necklace, call it which you please, made of light wood, the out and upper side covered with small red peas, which are fixed on with gum. They also wear small bunches of human hair, fastened to a string, and tied round the legs and arms. Sometimes instead of hair they make use of short feathers; but all the above-mentioned ornaments are seldom seen on the same person.

I saw only the chief, who came to visit us, completely dressed in this manner. Their ordinary ornaments are necklaces and amulets made of shells, &c. I did not see any with ear-rings; and yet all of them had their ears pierced.

Their dwellings are in the vallies, and on the sides of the hills, near their plantations. They are built after the same manner as at Otaheite; but are much meaner, and only covered with the leaves of the bread tree. The most of them are built on a square, or oblong, pavement of stone, raised some height above the level of the ground. They likewise have such pavements near their houses, on which they sit to eat and amuse themselves.

In the article of eating, these people are, by no means, so cleanly as the Otaheiteans. They are likewise dirty in their cookery. Pork and fowls are dressed in an oven of hot stones as at Otaheite; but fruit and roots they roast on the fire, and after taking off the rind or skin, put them into a platter or trough with water, out of which I have seen both men and hogs eat at the same time. I once saw them make a batter  
of









Drawn from Nature by W. Hodges.

Engrav'd by J. Hall  
N.º XXXVI.

# THE CHIEF AT S<sup>TA</sup> CHRISTINA.

*Published Feb. 1.º 1777 by W.º Strahan in New Street Shoe Lane & Tho. Cadell in the Strand London.*





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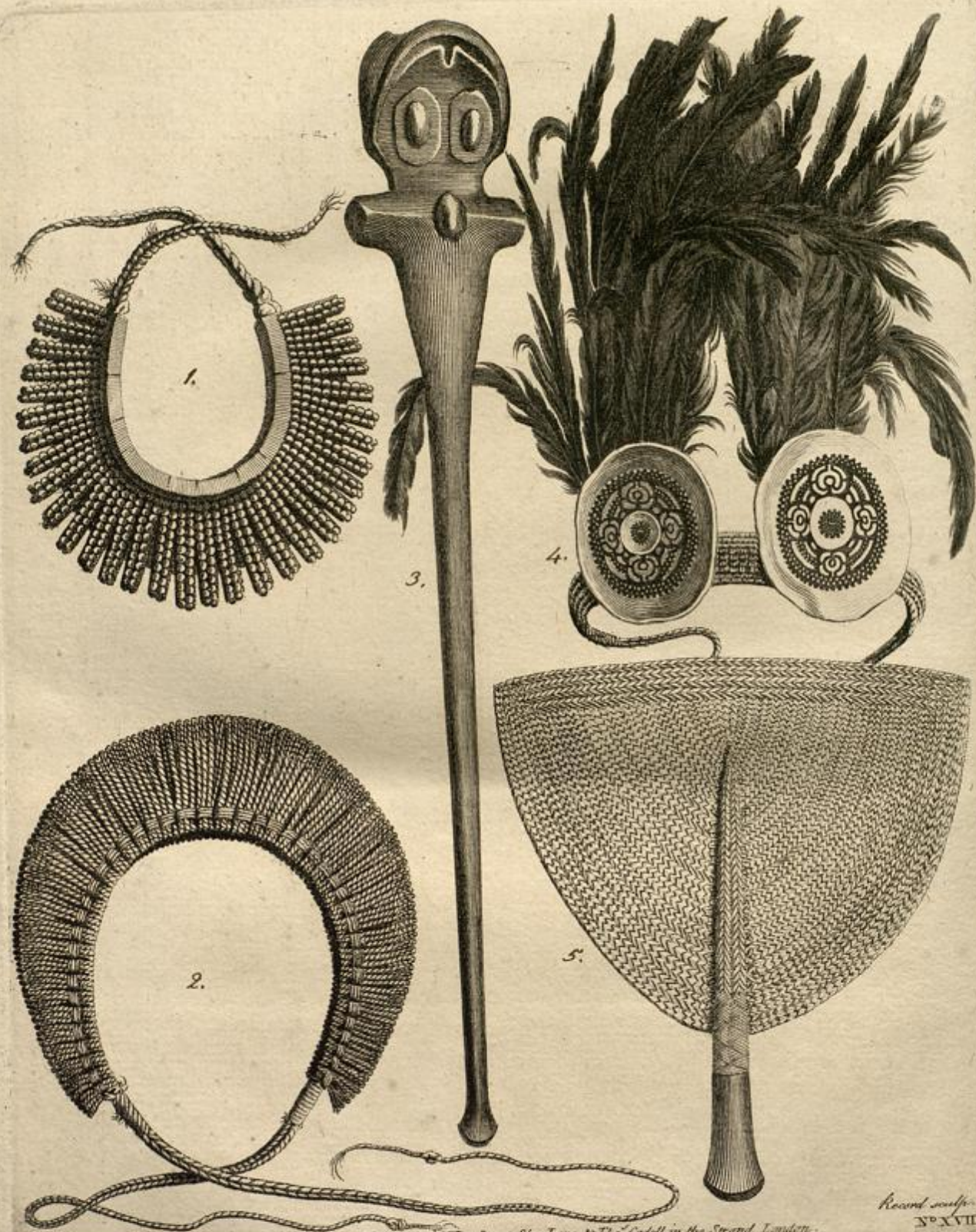




LANDES-  
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1878







Chapman, Del.

Published Feb 21<sup>st</sup> 1777 by W<sup>m</sup> Stoughton in New Street Shoe Lane & Tho<sup>s</sup> Cadell in the Strand London.

Record sculptor  
N<sup>o</sup> XVII





of fruit and roots diluted with water, in a vessel that was loaded with dirt, and out of which the hogs had been but that moment eating, without giving it the least washing, or even washing their hands, which were equally dirty; and, when I expressed a dislike, was laughed at. I know not if all are so. The actions of a few individuals are not sufficient to fix a custom on a whole nation. Nor can I say, if it is the custom for men and women to have separate messes. I saw nothing to the contrary; indeed I saw but few women upon the whole.

1774.  
April.

They seemed to have dwellings, or strong-holds, on the summits of the highest hills. These we only saw by the help of our glasses; for I did not permit any of our people to go there, as we were not sufficiently acquainted with the disposition of the natives, which (I believe) is humane and pacific.

Their weapons are clubs and spears, resembling those of Otaheite, but somewhat neater. They have also slings, with which they throw stones with great velocity, and to a great distance, but not with a good aim.

Their canoes are made of wood, and pieces of the bark of a soft tree, which grows near the sea in great plenty, and is very tough and proper for the purpose. They are from sixteen to twenty feet long, and about fifteen inches broad: the head and stern are made of two solid pieces of wood; the stern rises or curves a little, but in an irregular direction, and ends in a point; the head projects out horizontally, and is carved into some faint and very rude resemblance of a human face. They are rowed by paddles, and some have a sort of latteen sail made of matting.

Hogs.

