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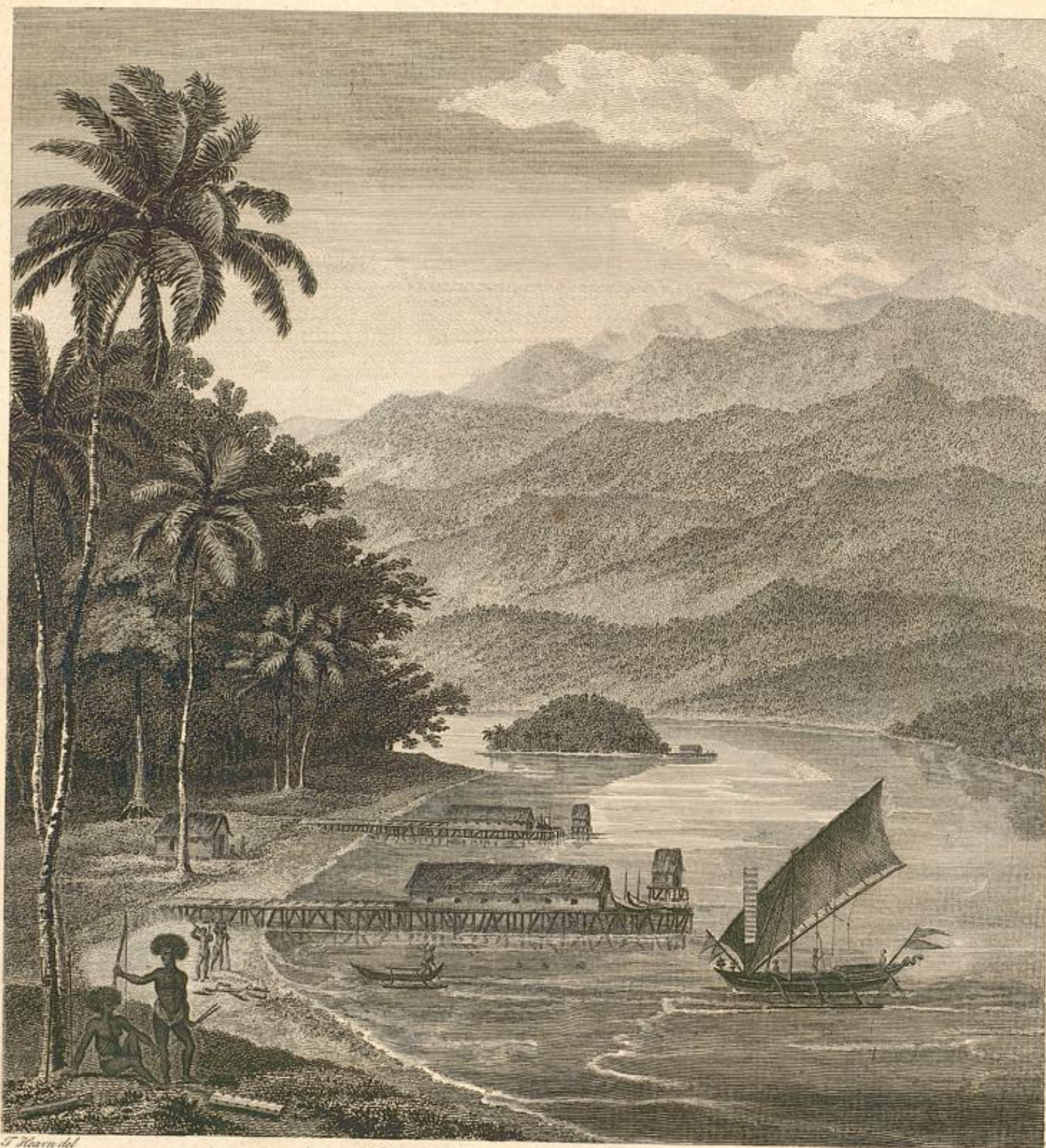
**A Voyage To New Guinea, And The Moluccas, From
Balambangan: Including An Account of Magindano,
Sooloo, and other Islands; And Illustrated With Thirty
Copperplates, Performed In The Tartar Galley, ...**

Forrest, Thomas

London, 1779

Introduction.

urn:nbn:de:gbv:45:1-1505



J. Hearne del.

J. Colclough sculp.

*In Testimony of Esteem & Regard to Joseph Banks Esq; President of the Royal Society,
 Who thirsting after Knowledge, left the Enjoyment of
 Opulence and Ease, to sail round the World.
 This VIEW of DORY HARBOUR on NEW GUINEA, is inscrib'd by his most hum^{ble} serv^t
 Publish'd as the Act directs Jan. 30. 1779. by Capt. T. Forrest.*

Tbo. Forrest.

I N T R O D U C T I O N.

THE first discovery of New Guinea,* or Tanna (Land) Papua, was made so long ago as the year 1511, by Antonio Ambreu, and Francis Serrano. †

By the Portuguese names given to certain harbours, bays, and islands, that we find on the north coast of New Guinea, between what is called Schouten's island and Solomon's islands, it would seem that nation had in former days much frequented those parts. Nicholas Struyck, in a book published at Amsterdam in 1753, gives a particular account of places and islands on the north coast of this country, with Portuguese names; and says, the Dutch endeavoured to conceal the knowledge of them. ‡ New Guinea is also said to have been discovered by Alvaro de Saavedra in 1527, who so called it, as being opposite on the globe to Guinea in Africa. Antonio Urdanetta saw New Guinea in 1528. §

Ruy Lopez de Lobos, in 1543, sent from Tidore, towards New Spain, by the south side of the line, a ship commanded by Ortez de

* *Littora Novæ Guineæ, insulæ Salomonis, insulæ de Los Ladrones, omnium harum insularum et regionum, si communiter spectentur, temperies humida est, et moderatè calida.* DE BRY, fol. 34.

† Galvano Baros.—Dalrymple's Chron. Tab. of Discovery.

‡ *Histoire des navigations aux terres Australes.*

§ *Histoire des voyages, par L'Abbé Prevot, tome 42 de l'edit. in-douze.*



Rotha. That Captain sailed to the coast of Os Papuas, and ranged it; but, not knowing that Saavedra had been there before him, he challenged the honour of discovery. He called it New Guinea,* from the frizzled locks of the inhabitants: for the memory of Saavedra's voyage was almost lost. †

Lopez Vaz relates, that some time about the year 1567, Lopez de Castro, governor of Peru, sent a fleet to discover certain islands in the South Sea. Alvarez de Mendanio was general. At the distance of 800 leagues, they discovered between 9° and 11° of S. latitude, some large islands; together, eighty leagues in compass. The greatest island was, according to the first finder, called Guadalcanal. Here they landed, took a town, and found small grains of gold. He farther says, "now at the time they thought of settling these islands, Captain Drake entering the South Seas, command was instantly given, that the islands should not be settled, lest the English or other nations, who passed the straits of Magellan for the South Sea, should find there any succour but from the Indians." ‡

It is not impossible, that pursuant to this, the Spaniards, in their posterior charts, misplaced Solomon's islands, and cast them far east into the South Sea. But Mr. Dalrymple, to whose researches and surveys navigation is deeply indebted, by collating Dampier's map of New Guinea, with what sketches are found in Herrera, and in the

* Nova Guinea a nautis sic dicta, quod ejus littora locorumque facies Guineæ Africanæ admodum sunt similia. Ab Andrea Corsali videtur dici terra Piccona.

LINSCHOOTEN, p. 328.

† Lord Oxford's continuation, vol. II. p. 402.

‡ Hakluyt, vol. III. p. 802.



collection of voyages by de Bry, has evinced, that Dampier's New Britain and Solomon's islands are the same. This has so far been verified by Captain Carteret's discovering a strait pass through the middle of New Britain. But, a map published by Linschooten in 1695, puts the matter beyond all doubt, as in that map the islands at the east extremity of New Guinea, are absolutely named Solomon's islands.*

It is to be regretted, that Dampier, who sailed to New Britain in the Roebuck 1699, had not seen Linschooten's map, published but four years before. Such a guide might have induced him to put into harbours which he did not visit, not knowing they existed: for the least additional light to a discoverer may be productive of important consequences.

As Lopez Vaz mentions gold found there, and the Spaniards unwilling the Portuguese should have any share in it, that circumstance might farther induce the former (if they were indeed induced) to misplace those islands; that these might not appear in the portion of the globe which the Pope had assigned them; the other half having been given to the Portuguese by virtue of the famous meridian † of

* Plate XIV.

† Some say, the first meridian is drawn through Fayal; but the following accompanies de Bry's maps.

Quicquid spatii intra duos illos meridianos, signatos terræ Americæ, est navigationibus detectum, aut detegetur in posterum, Castiliensibus assignatum est. DE BRY.

In the above map, one meridian goes through the banks of Newfoundland; the other through Java.

partition



partition his Holiness drew on the occasion. Lopez Vaz asserts, that the Spaniards carried back gold from Solomon's islands to New Spain.

Schouten* and le Maire, in 1616, after leaving an island they called St. John, and the Green islands, came to the coast of New Guinea, and sent their shallop in shore to found. She was attacked by several canoes, whence they threw stones at the boat with slings. Next day, the 26th of June, the ship was attacked, the enemy throwing stones and darts. This they were obliged to resent. They killed ten of the assailants, took three more, and four canoes. The canoes they destroyed, and ransomed two of the three prisoners for a hog and a bunch of plantains. Next day, they got another hog for some nails and trinkets. On the 28th, a handsome large canoe came on board, with twenty-one persons, who admired the ship much, and brought betel nut and lime. † These called themselves Papuas, and did not offer to exchange the third prisoner; upon which they put him ashore.

Continuing their course westward, on the 7th of July, they passed an island called Vulcan's; no doubt, one of the burning islands in the map. On the 13th, they anchored within half a league of the main land, in $2^{\circ} 54'$ S. latitude; and, finding the country abound in coconuts, sent the boat, well provided for an attack, with orders *to land and get some*. But such was the reception, from the arrows of the inhabitants, that sixteen being wounded, the invaders were forced, notwithstanding their muskets, to retire.

* Harris's Collection, Vol. I. p. 60.

† Used by most East Indians with the areka nut and betel leaf.



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On the 16th, they anchored between two islands, landed, burnt some houses, and brought off as many coco nuts as dealt three a man.

In sailing along the coast, they saw a very pleasant island, named in the map, Horn island. The crew changing its name, called it Schouten's island, in compliment to their commander. As the south coast of it is in Dampier's chart, left indefinite by a dotted line, I have some reason to think, the promontory of Dory may be the same land, but not sufficient evidence to ascertain it.

Abel Tasman, in 1642, after sailing round New Holland, and so discovering it to be an island, returned by New Britain and New Guinea. He then passed a burning mountain, in the latitude of $5^{\circ} 04'$ S. and afterwards got refreshments from the island Jama,* which lies a little to the east of Moa. The natives brought him 6000 coco nuts, and 100 bags of plantanes. The sailors, in return, making knives of iron hoops, bartered these awkward instruments for those refreshments. Tasman had no quarrel with the inhabitants. They seemed, at Moa and Arimoa, to be afraid of him; for, one of his sailors having been accidentally wounded, by an arrow from the bow of one of the natives, the man was delivered up.

Captain Dampier, in the voyage of the Roebuck, already mentioned, being on the west coast of New Guinea, bought, near an island, called by the natives Sabuda, three or four nutmegs in the shell, *which did*

* Plate XVI.

b

not



not seem to be long gathered. This agrees with what I found at Dory. The dress of the people also near Pulo Sabuda, is exactly that worn at Dory; the men wearing the rind of the palm-tree, and the women calicoes.

Dampier touched no where on the coast of New Guinea, but failed near several islands close by New Britain, Wishart's Island, Matthias, and Squally Island; also Slinger's Island, whence he was insulted with volleys of stones. Had he anchored behind any of these islands, which I apprehend, he might have done; or, if he had not fired small and great shot at the inhabitants of the large bay, where he did anchor, *to scare them*, as he owns, he might have doubtless had intercourse with them, and not been reduced to the hostility of taking, by violence, some of their hogs. Thus the whole discovery, from impatience or fear, was frustrated. By his account of the appearance of the country, it is well inhabited and cultivated; much better than the places I visited farther west.

Captain William Funnell, 1705,* observed several islands in $0^{\circ} 42'$ N. latitude, near the coast of New Guinea, inhabited; but by a seemingly hostile people: which prevented all intercourse with them. He saw the coast only at a distance; and says, it appeared to him mountainous, black, and rocky. Being afterwards in distress for provisions, and unacquainted in those seas, he was, by the mask of friendship, decoyed to Amboyna, where he suffered very rough usage from the Dutch.

* Harris's Collection.



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Commodore Roggewein* coasted the north part of New Guinea, in 1722, and touched at the islands Moa and Arimoa; whence came to him with provisions 200 canoes, with whom he dealt. He then passed by what he clusters in the name of the Thousand Islands; where, he says, the inhabitants had their heads covered with thick curled wool, and were called Papuas. Some of them had a bit of stick piercing the gristle of the nose, as I remarked in a slave who was brought to Dory, to be sold.

Roggewein's people landing on the island Moa, began to fell the coco nut trees; and the Indians, who lay in ambush, deservedly let fly at them a shower of arrows. Injustice is always imprudence, and ingratitude is the worst species of injustice. The natives had, just before this invasion of their property, brought the strangers all manner of refreshments. The latter, however, perceiving Moa thinly inhabited, had fallen upon this scheme of seizing provisions; thinking, to carry off, at once, stock sufficient for the prosecution of their voyage. To this conduct they were animated by the consideration, that the arrows of the natives did them little or no hurt; whereas, the discharge of their small arms laid abundance of their entertainers on the ground.

The next I can find, was Captain Carteret, who discovered, as has been said, New Britain to be divided into two parts at least; by a strait, which he names St. George's Channel. He found in English Cove, near Cape St. George, the nutmeg tree; but the fruit not ripe. He had only a distant intercourse with the inhabitants. Mr. Bougainville, who passed that strait soon after, found them treacherous.

* Harris's Collection.



Captain Cook sailed much about the same time to the south of New Guinea, through the Endeavour strait; where, by his account, the land is low. He had no friendly intercourse with the inhabitants.

To this hour, I do not find, that any European has had friendly intercourse with New Britain, which is well inhabited; and since Roggewein, nobody we know of, has had any with New Guinea. Monsieur Sonnerat, in his *Voyage à la Nouvelle Guinée*, lately published, went no farther east than the island Gibby,* near Patany Hook, on Gilolo. Gibby is often mentioned in the following sheets. What little connexion I had with the Papuas in New Guinea, will also there appear.

The account of the cinnamon tree is taken from the *Acta Physico-Medica Academiae Cæsareæ*, vol. I.

Since my own enquiries and conjectures about the people called Badjoos, mentioned chap. xviii. I have met with a curious account of them in Valentine. He says, the Oran Badjoos or Wadjoos, are fishermen; and that Mr. Padderburg at Manado on Celebes, had them under his charge in 1675.

Mr. Padderburg imagines the Badjoos have been driven from Macassar, Java, Bantam, and Japara. They have about 700 boats, in which they live mostly on fish. He adds, they have a king to whom they pay homage. They have a strange squeal in their voice, with a

* The Author does not say, whither he went; but this I learned from a person who deserted him, and whom I saw at Sooloo, in 1773.

very

very wild appearance; and, were it not for the freedom which their boats afford them of going from place to place, they would not remain in any particular quarter, as they have a dislike to the shore.

Padderburg is of opinion, they must have come either from China or Japan, where multitudes live in boats; and their departure from that country must have been occasioned, he thinks, by the inroads of the Tartars, who conquered China, and expelled the Badjoos, who may then have found their way amongst these islands. Those about Manado, Macassar, Borneo, and the Philippines, are a medley of different nations; such as Chinese with long plaited hair, Javans with bare throats, plucked beards and whiskers, and Macassars with black shining teeth.

Their religion is chiefly Chinese or Mahometan. They have in different parts many vessels; and, what is remarkable, their women are capable of managing those vessels even in heavy seas. These people are very useful to the Dutch East India Company, in carrying intelligence speedily from place to place, and giving information of whatever happens.

CON-



