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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

Chapter VII. Description of the North Coast of Waygiou, and of the
Harbour of Offak - Passed Manouaran - Arrived at the Islands of Yowl -
Account of them - Sailed for the Islands of Fan - A Gale, in ...

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C H A P T E R VII.

*Description of the North Coast of Waygiou, and of the Harbour of Offak—
 Passed Manouaran—Arrived at the Islands of Yowl—Account of them—
 Sailed for the Islands of Fan—A Gale, in which we were separated
 from the two Corocoros—Obliged to bear away—Arrived at Dory Har-
 bour on the Coast of New Guinea—Some Account of the Papuas there
 —Directions to get into the Harbour—Conjectures about Schouten's
 Island.*

AS I had the satisfaction of finding all the people contented and
 in good humour, I took the opportunity of visiting and fur-
 veying part of this spacious harbour, whilst others were occupied, as
 I have said, in fixing our rudders. At the same time I employed four
 ovens on shore, in baking bread from the sago flour, which I had
 bought at Tomoguy, in order to save our sea stock, consisting of three
 thousand biscuits, which I had got from Salwatty. These biscuits
 were hard, being well baked; and few from that store had been used.
 The view of some of the hills on the left hand, going into Offak* har-
 bour, is not only picturesque from without, but from within the har-
 bour, as they are not overloaded with wood. On the contrary, there
 were many clear spots covered with grass; and some appearing barren,
 even gave pleasure, as they promised ease in travelling that way: for
 it is almost universally the case in Malay countries, that too much wood,
 or too much long grass, called Lalang, and sometimes tall reeds, &c.

* Plate X. N° 1.

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disapp int



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disappoint the traveller: he cannot walk on, far less gain a summit, not very distant, or so much as the brow of a hill, which, seen from on board his vessel, perhaps appears close by. Several groves pointed out to me, were, I was told, sago trees: but, as I staid only one day, I had not time to make any excursion. I was also told that the Papua inhabitants hereabouts, often lurked in secret places, and shot arrows at the unwary traveller; but, this my people possibly said to indulge their own laziness, or perhaps their timidity.

The north coast of the island Waygiou is about fifteen leagues in length, from that small island on the north west extremity, and just under the line, to Rawak island and harbour, on the north east part of the island. The hill on Gibby Monpine, (a particular quarter of Waygiou) which I call the Cock's Comb, from its shape, may be seen about twenty leagues off, and is not quite so high as Ruib. Some white spots appear on it, as has been said. Going along the coast, abreast of, and near to Piapis harbour, (which shall be hereafter described) we perceived a remarkable hill;* I call it the First Peak; and, considering it as a cone, the angle at its vertex is a right angle. Farther on, about five leagues, is just such another hill: the angle of its top is also nearly a right angle; and it is the same in shape, which is that of a sugar loaf, though somewhat higher than the First Peak: I call this last the Second Peak. It is abreast of a small island, which, from its shape, I name the Shoe. Onward, in an east direction about three leagues, rises a very remarkable peak, which I call the Third Peak, or Buffalo's Horn. In some attitudes its top is blunt and rounding;

* Plate IX. N^o 3.

in others, sharp and pointed: yet it is mostly covered with trees, and is very steep.

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Coming from the northward, the voyager must descry one of these three peeks. The middle one, as I have said, is higher than the first; it is also somewhat higher than the third, and may be seen above twenty leagues off.

To go into Offak harbour, from the eastward, you pass a pyramidical naked rock,* within half a mile of the entrance on the left. The entrance is bold, and half a mile wide, with twenty fathom mud soundings in mid channel. In the entrance, you leave on the left, two islets, each no larger than a house: the larger has bushes atop, and around both are breakers. A little farther is another islet, that joins visibly to the main, by a reef of rocks. It will be necessary to give all these a reasonable berth, as well as the point on the left. When you have passed this point, on which is three fathom water, you find a sandy bay still on the left, with a stream of fresh water, where you may anchor in twelve fathom sand. From the entrance into the harbour, the third peak, or buffalo's horn, bears south half west, about three miles in land.

Opposite to, or almost south from the entrance, are two little islands, one shaped like a sugar loaf, the other with a hillock on it. At the bottom of this hillock is a pond of fresh water, and behind, or close to the islet, is water five or six fathom deep. This would be a good

* Plate IX. N^o 1.

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place



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place for a ship to heave down. The two islands are joined by a reef of coral rocks dry at low water.

On the east and west, the harbour goes far into the island of Waygiou; but, as I have been told, the west bay goes farther. At the bottom of it, is said to be a small neck, or carrying place, over which canoes may be easily transported into a large lake,* where are many islands. On the largest resides a great Rajah: all over it are foundings, and it communicates with the sea at the south part of the island. Captain Mareca told me there were about 100,000 inhabitants upon the island, that they were continually at war with one another, and that it might be about forty leagues round. Offak lies in latitude $00^{\circ} 10' N.$ longitude $127^{\circ} 44'.$

Thursday the 12th. Got under way before dawn, having first fired a gun, as a signal to the two corocoros, which did not immediately follow: at seven in the morning, being then a good way from the harbour's mouth, we saw them in shore. About noon had very fresh gales at N. N. W. steered E. N. E. and passed Manouaran,† an island of middling height. We soon after discovered the highest and largest of the islands Aiou. It is called by way of distinction, I suppose, Aiou Baba, ‡ Father Aiou; and bears from Manouaran, N. E. by N. eight leagues.

We had fine weather all night. The Borneo Corocoro kept far ahead.

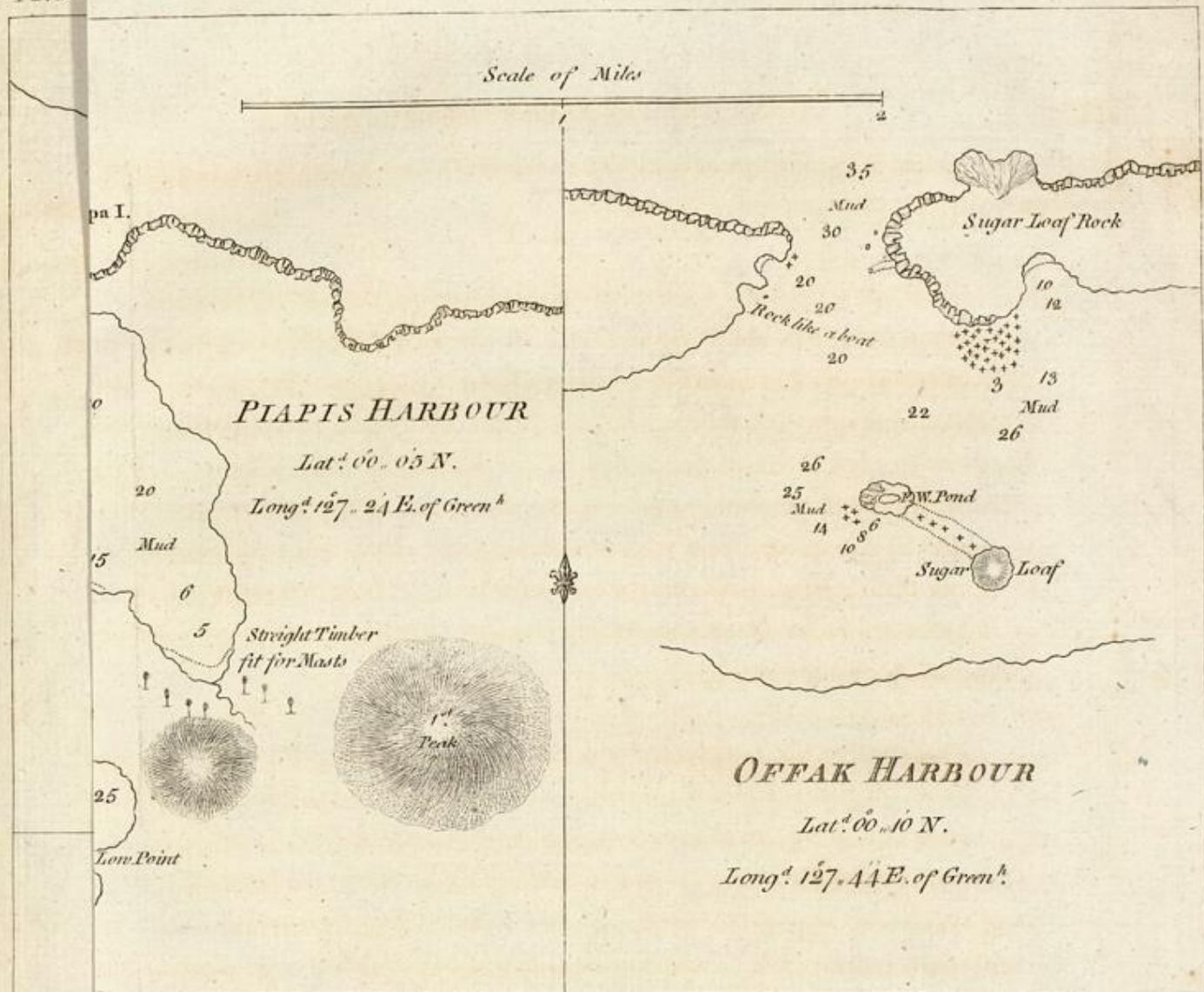
* This may be the deep bay, that in the charts is laid down on the south side of the island.

† Plate XI. N^o 2.

‡ Plate IX. N^o 4 and 6.

Friday



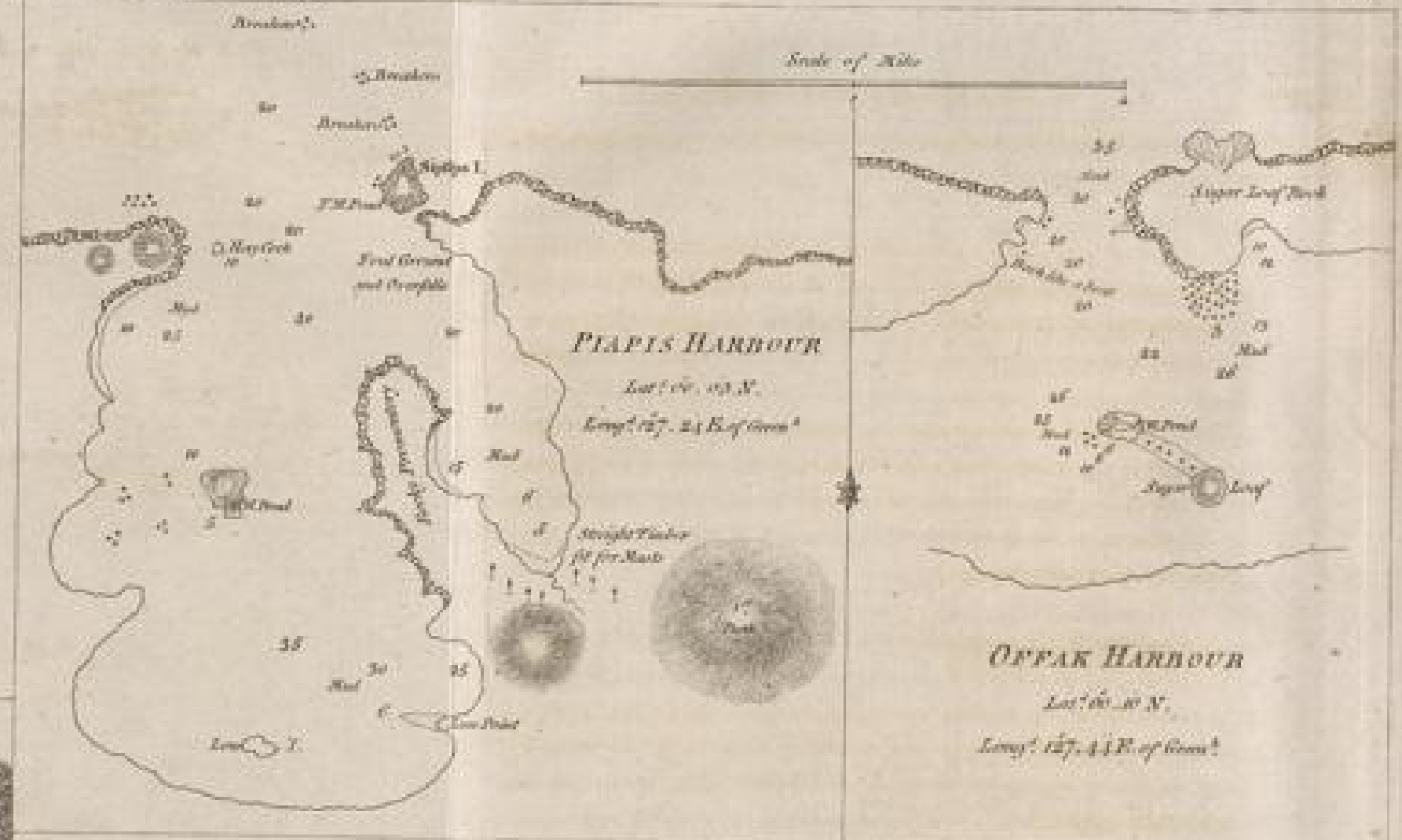


The Entrance

Pulo Siquia at the Entrance of Piapis Harbour 1/2 mile

The Vivaro Sculpt.





View from the Point of Selang

Looking N.W. and the Strait of Selang Island lying between the STRAIT

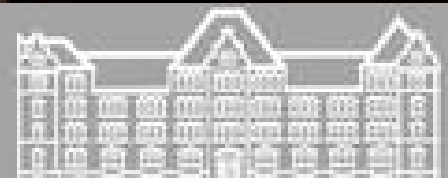
the Malacca Current



All these parts of Batchian are at low Water

Part of the Bay of Piapis Harbour

View from the Point



Faint, illegible text on a lined page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is arranged in approximately 20 horizontal lines across the page.



Friday the 13th, at sunrise, could see the high mountains of New Guinea: I inclined much to steer for them; but durst not, as I knew Tuan Hadjee would not consent.

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We had fine weather until about eight A. M. it then began to rain, and the wind came to the eastward. Steering for the largest of the Aious, I found a reef run west of it six or seven miles.

The Borneo corocoro, in which was one of the Batchian officers, got over the reef, and sent us a boat with eight Coffres and a pilot, who was also a Papua Coffre. After lying by, until the tide served, he carried us over the edge of the reef, in one and a half fathom coral rocks; and then we had barely one fathom. Immediately we came into a large found of five, four, three, and two fathom clear sand, with spots of rocks here and there. Anchored in one and a half fathom, at low water (clean sand) within a short mile of the shore. Beside the pilot boat, came two others to tow us in, the wind being against us: for we went over the edge of the reef at least four miles to the westward of Aiou Baba.

Saturday the 14th. Had in the morning much rain; notwithstanding which, the three head men of those islands, stiled the Moodo, the Synagee and the Kymalaha, came on board about eight, in a large corocoro, with six banks of paddles, three banks of a side. They were Papua men, and presented me with several birds of paradise, which they had got from New Guinea: in return, I gave each some calicoes. I saluted them, when they went away, with one gun, which they returned.



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A fisherman, amongst various fish, brought me two, of which the heads were remarkable, by a horn that projected from between their eyes. The horn was about four inches long, equal in length to the head. Altogether, the head was that of a unicorn; the people called it Ecn Raw, that is, the fish Raw. The skin was black, and the body might be twenty inches long: its tail was armed with two strong scythes on each side, with their points forward.*

On *Sunday* the 15th, went round Aiou Baba in the pilot's boat, and found it about five miles in compass. Coming back, I went to the little harbour, where the Moodo, the Synagee, and Kymalaha lived; finding it very snug for vessels of six foot water, I chose, however, to lie in the smooth road without. To day Tuan Hadjee visited the Moodo. On my return from the circuit of the island, I found him finely dressed with a number of attendants. Perceiving he had been on a visit of ceremony, I regretted he had not signified his intention, that I might have given orders for the proper salute on his going ashore, which he took in very good part.

Monday the 16th, fair weather for the first part of the day, but much rain in the afternoon. About breakfast time the Moodo paid me a visit, accompanied by two of his wives, who, I learned, had been taken at Amblou, a Dutch settlement, on an island near Amboyna,

* Mr. Banks found the same kind of fish on the coast of New Holland, of which he did me the favour to show me a print—I preserved the heads of my two fish; they are now in the Museum of Charles Boddam, Esquire.

by

by the Papua people. Both had long black hair, and were of the Malay colour; whereas every one I saw here, men and women, were Coffres. By one of these female captives, the Moodo had a little boy, who came along with them. The corocoro that brought them on board, was not near so large as that in which the Moodo came to make his first visit. The mother of the boy had a settled melancholy in her countenance; she spoke good Malays, and was cheared by the sight of Europeans. The other captive seemed more reconciled to her condition. I treated them with tea, and gave them a little to carry ashore with them; also some sugar candy, for which they were very thankful. I made them likewise presents of calicoes.

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In the evening, my mate, being ill of an intermitting fever, went ashore to the Moodo's house: the Serang* being sick, had been the day before conveyed thither. To day I sent to the woods, whence I had a new foremast, and made a wooden anchor.

I was curious to enquire how such a person as the Moodo, who was under the king of Tidore, and had little power of his own, durst venture to purchase the subjects of the Dutch. I was answered that here people did not mind the Dutch, as they were far away; but, whenever the Dutch threatened vengeance to any Papua chiefs, and sent to take off their heads, they, on such occasions, to represent the chief, drest up a slave, who, being really executed, so far deceived the governor of Ternate.

* Serang, boatswain.



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On *Tuesday* the 17th, westerly winds with some rain, until afternoon; then N. E. winds, with much rain. Notwithstanding it blew fresh, I lay smooth: for the huge sea, without, broke its violence on the edge of the reef, with which this cluster of islands is surrounded. However, I became sensible when it was high water, by the vessel's pitching a little: at low water the sea was perfectly smooth, the depth nine foot. A rising and setting moon makes high water, and the spring tides rise five foot.

The Papua people, in their boats, continued to bring us abundance of excellent fish; also turtle, which my Mahometans would not eat; but they ate the eggs. The natives had a way of stuffing the guts of the turtle, with the yolks of its eggs. So filled, they rolled it up in a spiral form, and roasted it, or rather dried it over a slow fire; it proved then a long sausage. They also brought us limes, and small lemons. We found near the Moodo's house, the green, called by the Malays *Affimum*. It is about an inch and half long, and a quarter of an inch broad; it breaks short, being thick; and has a salt taste, when ate raw. It becomes very palatable with oil and vinegar, proving also very good boiled. This green springs abundant in the Sooloo Archipelago, on small islands, at high water mark.

Wednesday the 18th. Fine weather: our people in the boat caught much fine fish in the night.

On *Thursday* the 19th, went to the island of *Abdon*,* accompanied by the Moodo and the Synagee: found it lie in $00^{\circ} 36'$ north latitude:

* Plate IX. N^o 7.



Pl. 5



W. Hamilton del.

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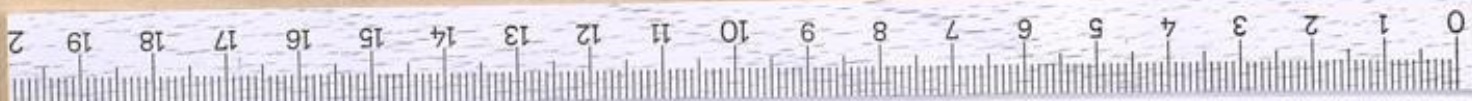


W. Hamilton del.

S. Caldwell sculp.

In Testimony of Esteem & Regard, for his many amiable Qualities;
 To William Aldersey Esq. President of the Board of Trade in Bengall,
 This VIEW of the ISLAND of OUBY, from Freshwater Bay, on BATCHIAN;
 Is inscribed by his most affectionate Cousins & humble Serv^{ts}. Tho^s Forrest.

Printed as the Act directs Jan^y 30. 1779. by Capt. T. Forrest.



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we returned at night. Abdon I discovered to be about three miles round, and about two hundred foot high. Konibar may be about the same height, and size: it lies north of Abdon. The rest of the sixteen islands, that form this cluster, are flat and low, except Aiou Baba, near which we lay, and which rises about five hundred foot. On Konibar, are said to be plantations of yams, potatoes, sugar canes, and other tropical productions. On the island Abdon, I was in a rude plantation of papa trees, lime trees, and chili or cayenne pepper: the soil was rich, as it is also on Aiou Baba. Near the little harbour, where the Moodo's house stands, the soil is sandy and low; and about two hundred yards from his house, is a pond of fresh water. But the three islands of Aiou Baba, Abdon, and Konibar, are too thinly inhabited to produce much, though almost every thing would grow upon them. The Papua inhabitants have fish and turtle in such abundance, that they neglect agriculture. When they want bread, they carry live turtle, and sausages made of their eggs, dried fish, &c. to Waygiou, where, in the harbours of Rawak, Offak, Warjow, &c. they truck for sago, either baked or raw; nay, perhaps go to the woods and provide themselves, by cutting down the trees. On these voyages, they often carry their wives and families. They bring tortoise shell and swallo, to sell to the Chinese, who trade here in sloops, that must always be furnished with Dutch passes, many Chinese being settled at Ternate and Amboyna.

Friday the 20th. Fresh gales at N. W. until the afternoon: then variable winds, and more moderate weather. Went in the boat to find the nearest passage out, it being the easternmost, and within two miles of Aiou Baba. I found it much better than the channel, by
which



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which we entered; fixed a pole in the sand as a beacon. In the night we had fresh gales and squalls from the N. E. quarter.

Saturday the 21st, much rain. The pilot came on board, but, as the weather looked bad, and I did not choose to move, he went ashore again. In the night the wind was at N. W. with frequent squalls.

Sunday the 22d, moderate weather. The pilot returned on board; also Mr. Baxter, and the Serang, who had been kindly treated ashore, for some trifling presents to the Moodo. The Kymalaha came likewise, and assisted us very readily with a boat, and people, in towing the vessel over the reef, at the near, or small passage. I gave out that I was going in search of the islands of Fan, which I was informed lay about twelve hours sail to the N. E. of where we were. I dismissed Captain Mareca, and his three servants: he seemed very glad to get back to his family, especially as I rewarded him with ten bars of iron, and various piece goods. The reason I parted with him was, I had bought from the Moodo, a Mulatto, who spoke Malay and the Papua tongue: he was called Mapia. I suspected also a jealousy between Mareca and Tuan Hadjee, who, immediately on the captain's leaving the galley, came on board with his baggage. About half an hour past eight in the morning, we got over the reef; and found twenty-five fathom water, sandy ground, not above half a cable's length from it. At parting, I presented to the Moodo a pocket compass, with three bars of iron, and one to the Kymalaha. I gave another pocket compass to the pilot, and one bar of iron. When I told the Moodo and others, that I was bound for the islands Fan, they surmised (as I was told)

told), that we were going thither in the view of catching certain yellow coloured people with long hair, who resort frequently to Fan from other islands farther north for turtle, possibly from the islands named Palaos, * in 30° N. latitude; amongst ourselves we called them Mapia, which signifies good, in the Magindano tongue.

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The reef that surrounds these islands is about fifty miles in compass, divided by a deep strait one mile broad, and about five long, into two parts. The smaller part incloses the island of Aiou Baba, which is the largest of them all, and is high, with the small islands Popy and Mof. The larger reef incloses the islands of Abdon and Konibar, which are pretty high, and the low islands of Musbekan, Sebemuky, Capamuky, Rutny, Rainy, Popy, Cafoly, Yowry, † and three small islands called Wirisoy. A deep sound is said to be on the N. W. side of the larger reef. Visiting Abdon, I passed over smooth water in this sound eight and ten fathom deep; and from this sound the Moodo, who accompanied me when I visited it, assured me, there was a good egress to the open sea; but I had no opportunity of examining it, and went only where the depth is marked. Amidst these soundings, I frequently found little spots of coral rocks, steep, even with the water's edge. From a little height upon Abdon, ‡ I could not see the farthest islands called Wirisoy: so they are put down only by report: all the other islands I saw. Aiou Baba lies in latitude 00° 32' N. longitude 128° 25'.

If it be true that there is an entrance into this sound, which, as I have said, has a good depth, ships might lie there very secure, and

* Harris's Voyages, vol. i. p. 691.

† Plate VII.

‡ Plate IX. N° 7.



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the situation must be healthy. They would find plenty of turtle and fish, and some tropical fruits. Water is also to be got, I am told, by digging even on the low islands: but Waygiou being so near, where are many good harbours, it would perhaps be more eligible to go thither; though, in point of health, Waygiou, being subject to frequent rains, cannot compare with the islands Aiou.

Having got over the reef, and taken leave of our Papua friends, who had behaved exceeding civilly, I steered along the south edge of it. About noon, the Banguay corocoro keeping rather too near the reef, I fired a gun, and made her signal. We then proceeded all three together, steering N. N. E. wind at W. N. W. At sunset, the island Abdon bore west, five or six leagues; the current set eastward. Lay to best part of the night, seeing neither of the corocoros. It blew hard from N. W. which caused a great sea.

Monday the 23d. In the morning Pulo Waygiou bore S. S. W. and the islands of Aiou were out of sight. About eight in the morning, the Borneo corocoro (in which was Tuan Bobo, one of the Batchingian officers, the other Tuan Affahan, being on board the galley) made, by firing a gun, a signal of distress. I found she had carried away her commoody or rudder. Luckily provided with two, a large and a small, I spared her the latter, and with difficulty got it conveyed by a rope, as there was a great sea. At noon, I found myself in the latitude of $00^{\circ} 52' N$.

On observing the distress of one of the corocoros, I had put about and steered S. W. with the wind at N. W. willing, if possible, to regain

regain Waygiou; which, however, I did not expect: though Tuan Hadjee, seeing it right ahead, thought otherwise. At six P. M. it blowing very fresh, the vessel sprang a leak, and near three foot water got into her hold, before we could gain on her. We started water, and hove overboard whatever came to hand; sago, firewood, and our cooking place; also a great many iron hoops: in doing of which, I cut my right hand, being in a hurry, while the black people stood aghast. My two Europeans were incessantly employed in baling over each gunnel, and both the corocoros were in sight, and near us. At last, in about an hour and a half, we began to gain; but kept one man constantly baling all night, as the vessel continued leaky. So I kept her sometimes before the sea, and sometimes lay to, as suited best her ease.

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Tuesday the 24th. In the morning the gale had much abated, but, to my great concern, had driven out of sight both corocoros. I could see Waygiou bearing west, about fourteen leagues: at the same time, I could discover the high mountains of New Guinea.

I told Tuan Hadjee, there was an absolute necessity to bear away for Dory harbour on the coast of New Guinea; to which he made no objection. So we steered S. E. and E. S. E. for the island of Myfory,* to the southward of which, Tuan Hadjee told me, the harbour of Dory lay. At noon we could just see Waygiou, from which I reckoned myself above one degree east. We could also see the Cape of Good Hope: it bore E. S. E. about twelve leagues from us, then in $00^{\circ} 13' N.$ latitude, which lays the Cape nearly under the line.

* Which, by Tuan Hadjee's description, I took to be Schouten's island.



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At sunset, the Cape bore E. S. E. four leagues. We were then about seven miles from the nearest shore, and it clearing up westward, I had sight of two flat islands, which Tuan Hadjee told me were called Mispalu: they bore west, and were about five leagues distant. During the night the weather was moderate, with the wind a little off shore. This part of the coast of New Guinea, joining on the west the Cape of Good Hope, consists of two, sometimes three, ranges of very high hills, one behind the other. About midnight we doubled the Cape.

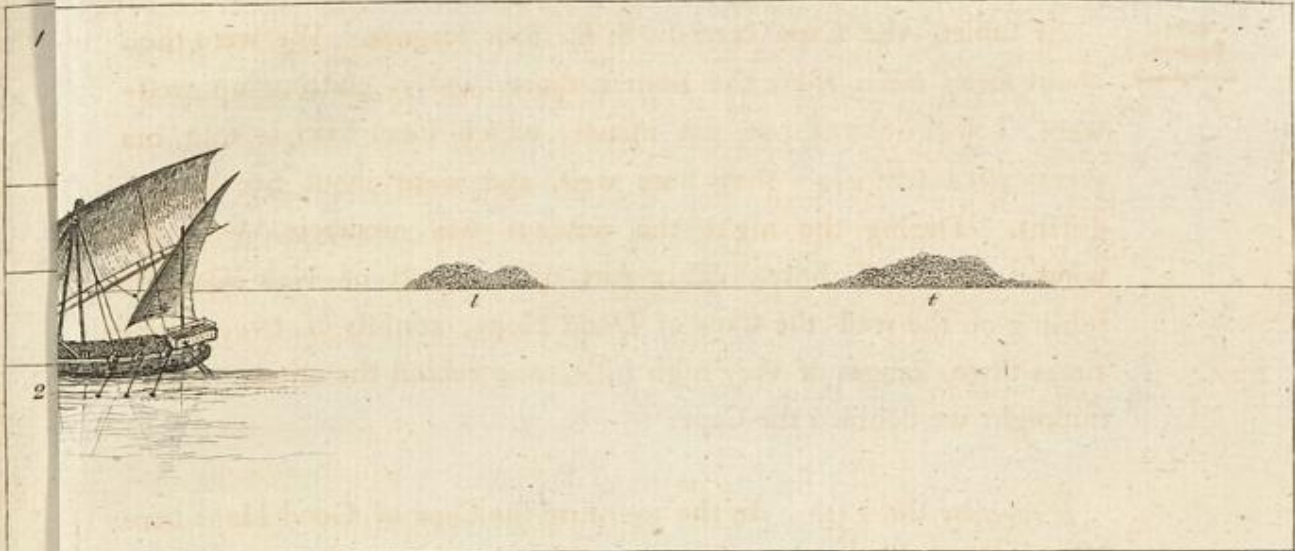
Wednesday the 25th. In the morning the Cape of Good Hope bore W. N. W. half N. seven leagues, being then about seven miles off shore. I perceived many clear spots on the hills which were nearest the shore, with ascending smoke. Tuan Hadjee told me, these were the plantations of the Haraforas.* At three in the afternoon, we could discern the Cape of Good Hope to the westward, bearing W. by N. half N. and a certain bluff land to the eastward, bearing on the opposite point of the compass E. by S. half S. we happening at that instant to be exactly on the rhumb line that went between them. I then took the Cape to be ten leagues, and the Bluff Land seven leagues distant. Immediately after, I saw land of middling height appear like an island, bearing E. by S. † I concluded this was Schouten's island. Tuan Hadjee asserting that it was, and that to gain Dory harbour, we must steer round the forementioned Bluff Land; but, luckily, before night, I perceived the land I took to be Schouten's island, to be part of the main land of New Guinea; that the Bluff Head already mentioned was a hill resembling a bee-hive, and that it joined to the land

* Plate XII. N^o 1. People who live in land, and cultivate the ground.

† Plate XI. N^o 1.

I have





W.A.S. Galley

l. Liliola E.S.E. 4 L.

t. Tapiola S.E.b.E. 4 L.



t. Tapiola 1'

p. Pulo Pisang N.E. 10'

m. Mouse 2'

drawn by Capt^o Tho^s Forrest as the Act directs, Jan^y. 30th 1779.

Tho^s Vivare Sculp^t

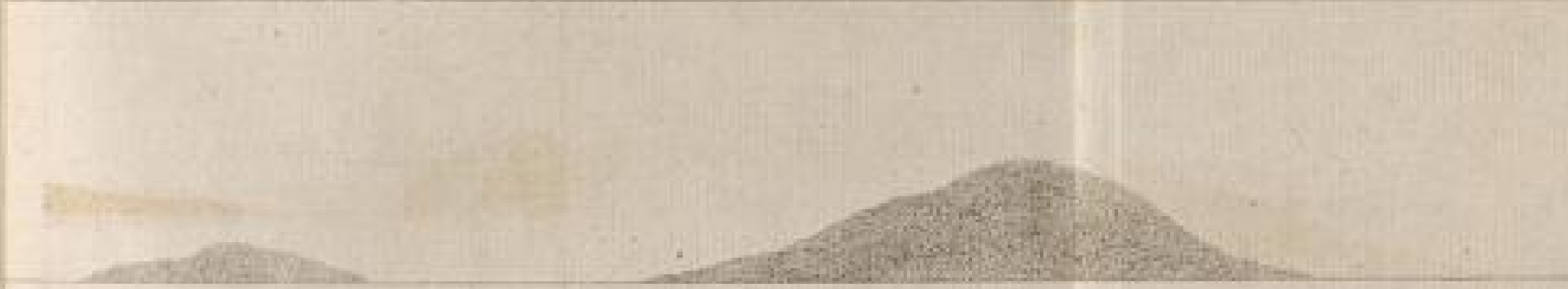




Islands South of Pulo Banner called Geringe



Kabuang S.E. Sullabo W.E. Talar or Tinas Lado



Part of Sanguir Island North of Sanguir SW.S. 14. E.

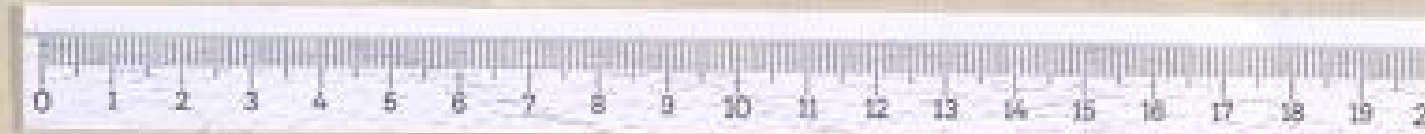


p. Pulo Pising E.E. t. Tarta Galley t. Lilita S.E. 1. E. t. Tapida S.E. 1. E.



t. Lilita W.N.W. t. Lita t. Tapida t. Pulo Pising E.E. t. Mousa S.

Published by Capt. Tho' Forrest on the Act directed Sept 30th 1779. Tho' Forrest del. Tho' Deane sculp.





I have erroneously called Schouten's island, by a low neck covered with trees of equal height, excepting one clump in the middle of the neck, which is higher than the rest. This low neck not being seen when the land without it first appeared, made me the rather believe it to be Schouten's island, and so far confirmed the mistake: but, on finding it, I hauled off. The wind then freshening, I lay to some hours, lest I should overshoot the harbour of Dory. Many years had passed since Tuan Hadjee had been there: I was therefore not surpris'd at his having been mistaken.

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In the morning, saw a flat point of land bearing S. E. six leagues. Found the extremity of the land mentioned yesterday as Schouten's island, but which was the land of Dory, * to bear E. by N. half N. from the hill I have called the Beehive: so that the neck of land, with the low trees and the clump of trees upon it, already mentioned, form a bay. Steered E. S. E. for a little low island like a bonnet, close to the shore. About noon, it blowing hard, and there being a great sea, when we had run about twelve leagues from morning, we hauled in round this island, leaving it to the right. When it bore S. S. W. within less than pistol shot, we had fourteen fathom water, sandy ground. It is called Yowry. We anchored behind it in three and a half fathom water, with a wooden anchor, and made a rope fast to the shore of the island. We lay pretty smooth. At night, let go our iron grapnel, and soon after parted from our wooden anchor, the cable being cut by the rocks.

I believe this to be a very good harbour farther in; but I had no opportunity to examine, as, it blowing very fresh, I did not go ashore.

* Plate XI. N° 1. Plate XII. N° 1.

I observed

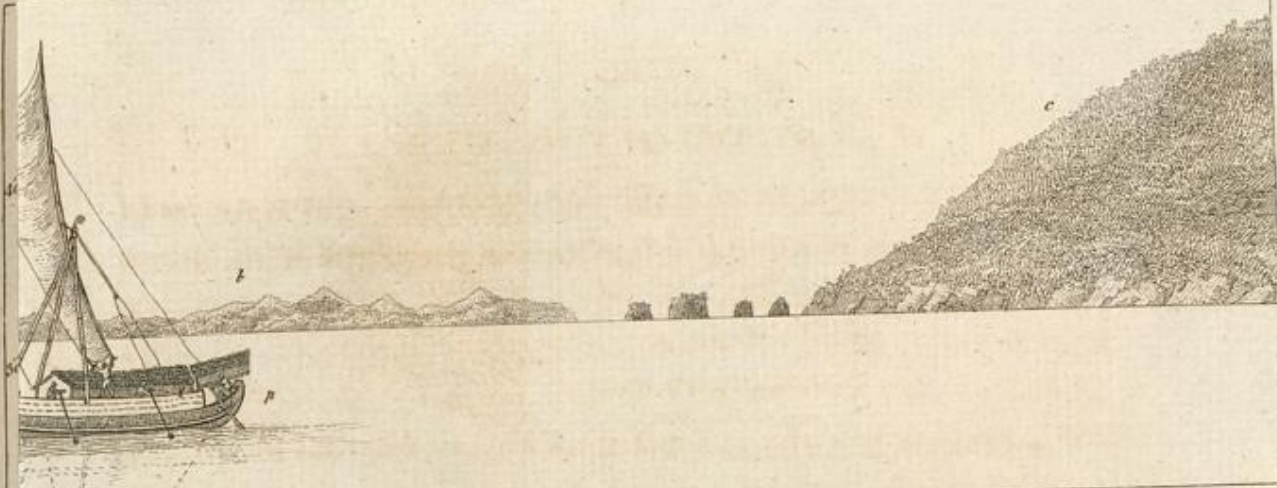


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I observed a reef of rocks from the main land, projected so far, as to overlap (if I may so say) the passage to the north west of the island Yowry; and no swell came in that way, except a little at high water.

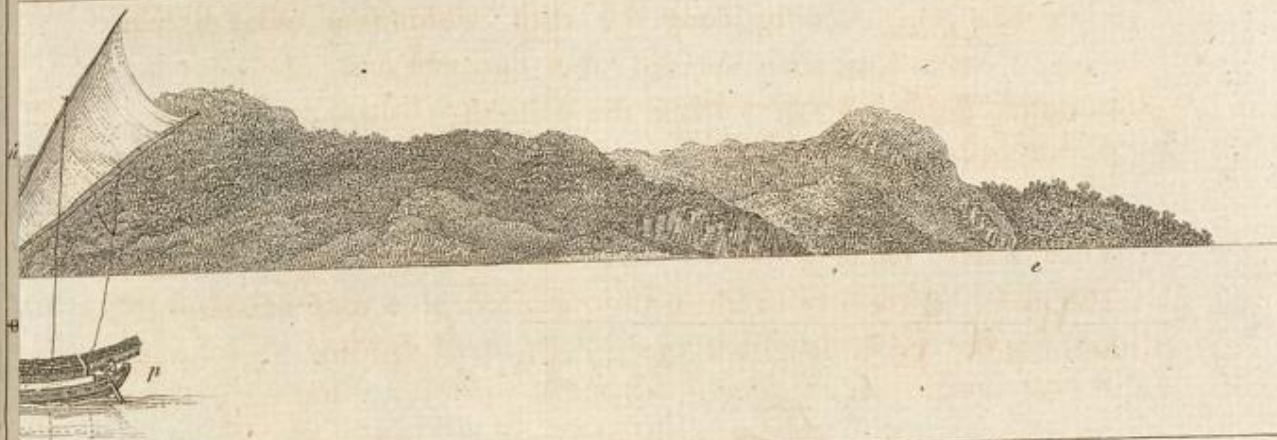
Tuan Hadjee, Tuan Buffora, and Tuan Affahan, went directly ashore; the first was extremely affected with the bad weather, and said very little. Tuan Affahan was a smart seaman, and had been very useful in the late gale. Coming along this coast, within four miles of the shore, I would have often foundered; but durst not bring the vessel to. In rolling before the sea, I found the projecting gallery of great use; for, when it took the water, it buoyed the vessel up like an outrigger. We shipped water over the gunnel several times. On this little island Tuan Buffora found a nutmeg tree, which, however, had no fruit. The island Yowry may be about three quarters of a mile in compass. Latitude $00^{\circ} 15' S.$ longitude $130^{\circ} 45' E.$

Friday the 27th. At eight in the morning weighed, and stood along shore, about E. by S. the coast lying nearly E. S. E. the wind still at N. W. blowing fresh. A flat point, like that mentioned yesterday, lies about six or seven leagues from the island Yowry, in an E. S. E. direction: when we got abreast of it, I found the bay of Dory open; and another flat point bore from it S. by E. about five leagues, the bay being between. Here the wind moderated a little. The vessel got into what I imagined to be a ground swell, and the sea had like to have pooped us; but we presently got out of it, hauling round into the bay. About noon came to an anchor, in a sandy bay, close to the land, well sheltered from the north west and north. The wind (drawn by
the



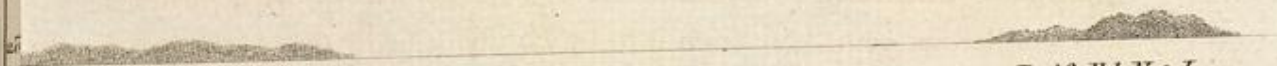
b. Balabalak 5 L.

c. Part of Ruib NNW. 5 L.



nd of Gag

e. Entrance into the Harbour
p. p. Buggesi Paoluakan



Gag 7 L.

Doif E. b. N. 2 L.



NNE. 6 L.

of Gibby

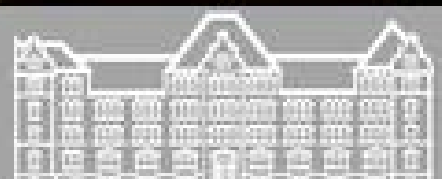
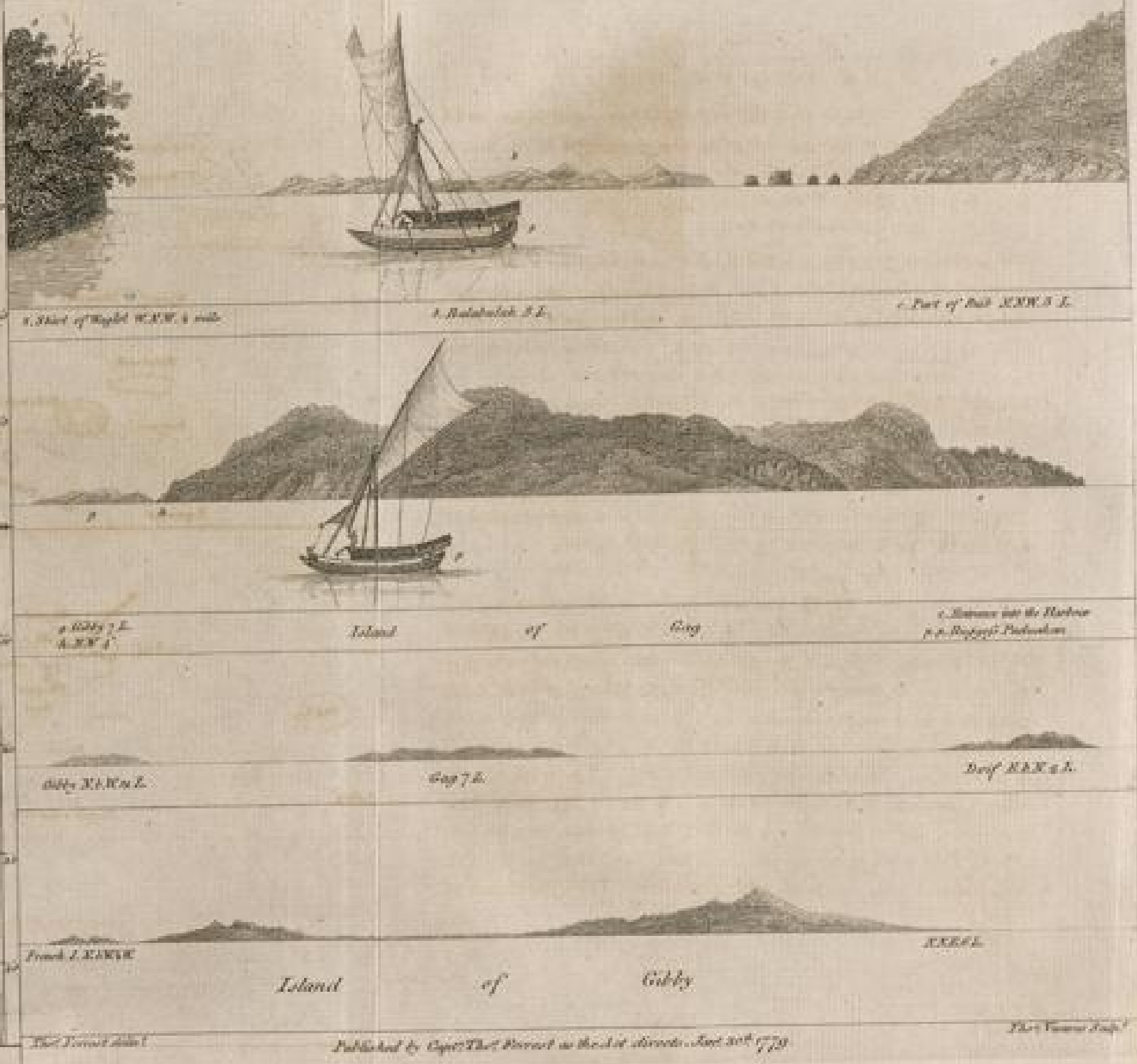
Tho: Vintres Sculp.

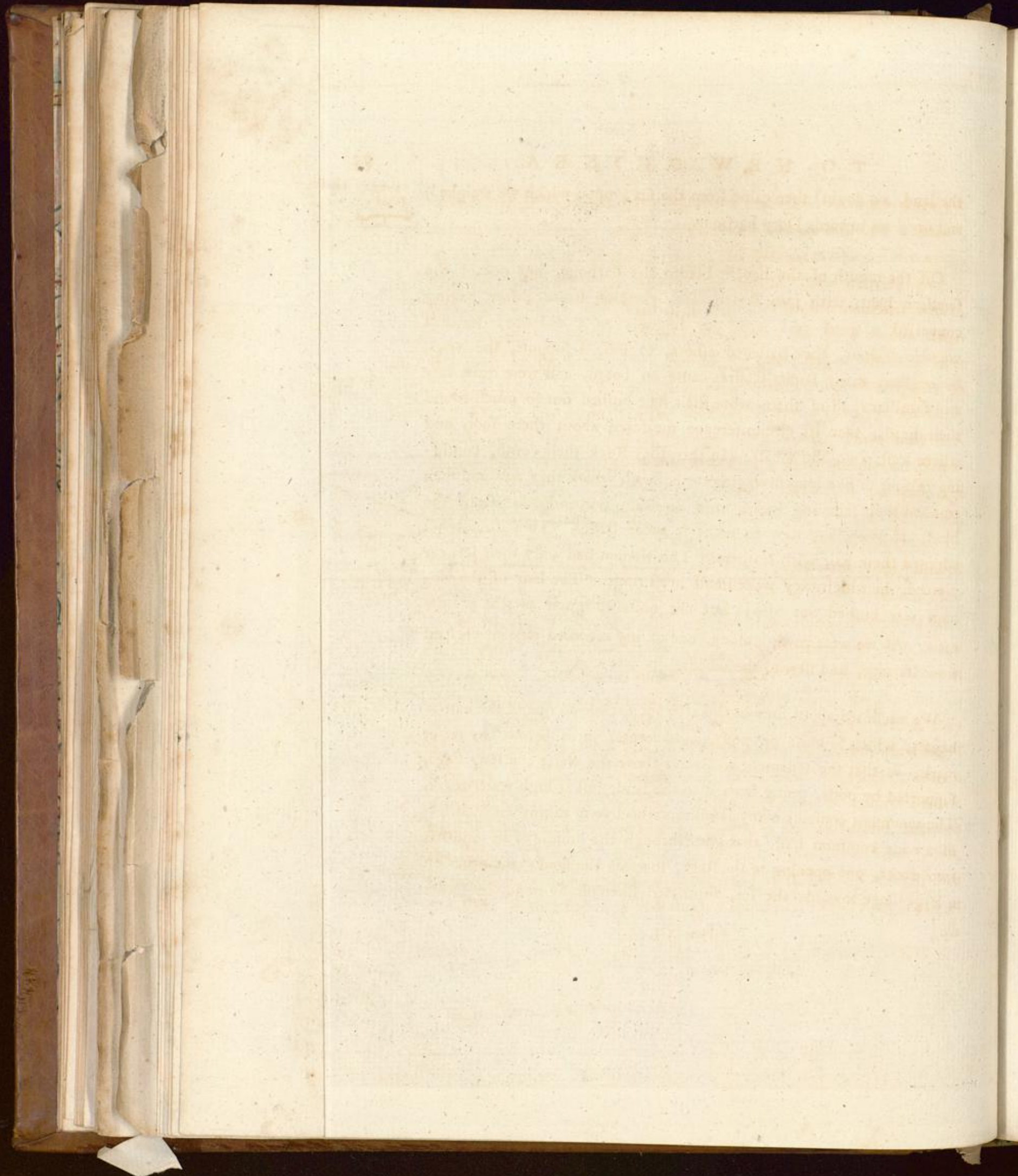
had by Capt: Tho: Forrest as the Act directs, Jan: 30th 1779.



Hombaba
 Abden
 Kambur
 } Of middling height the rest Flat.

ISLANDS of Airoo or Fowz
 31 feet
 From Airoo, that
 may be just seen.





the land, no doubt) then came from the sea; upon which we weighed, and stood on towards Dory harbour.

1775.
Janua y.

Off the mouth of the bay,* before the harbour, but out of the swell, a boat, with two Papua men, came on board, after having conversed a good deal with our linguists at a distance: satisfied we were friends, they hastened ashore, to tell, I suppose, the news. Soon after, many Papua Coffres came on board, and were quite easy and familiar: all of them wore their hair bushed out so much round their heads, that its circumference measured about three foot, and where least, two and a half. In this they stuck their comb, consisting of four or five long diverging teeth, with which they now and then combed their frizzling locks, in a direction perpendicular from the head, as with a design to make it more bulky. They sometimes adorned their hair with feathers. The women had only their left ear pierced, in which they wore small brass rings. The hair of the women was bushed out also; but not quite so much as that of the men. As we were rowing along, one of my crowned pigeons escaped from its cage, and flew to the woods.

We anchored about four in the afternoon, close to one of their great houses, which is built on posts, fixed several yards below low water mark; so that the tenement is always above the water: a long stage, supported by posts, going from it to the land, just at high water mark. The tenement contains many families, who live in cabins on each side of a wide common hall, that goes through the middle of it, and has two doors, one opening to the stage, towards the land; the other on a large stage towards the sea, supported likewise by posts, in rather

* Plate XII.

deeper



1775.
January.

deeper water than those that support the tenement. On this stage the canoes are hauled up; and from this the boats are ready for a launch, at any time of tide, if the Haraforas attack from the land; if they attack by sea, the Papuas take to the woods. The married people, unmarried women, and children, live in these large tenements, which, as I have said, have two doors; the one to the long narrow stage, that leads to the land; the other to the broad stage, which is over the sea, and on which they keep their boats, having outriggers on each side. A few yards from this sea stage, if I may so call it, are built, in still deeper water, and on stronger posts, houses where only batchelors live. This is like the custom of the Batta people on Sumatra, and the Idaan or Moroots on Borneo, where, I am told, the batchelors are separated from the young women and the married people.

At Dory were two large tenements of this kind, about four hundred yards from each other, and each had a house for the batchelors, close by it: in one of the tenements were fourteen cabins, seven on a side; in the other, twelve, or six on a side. In the common hall, I saw the women sometimes making mats, at other times forming pieces of clay into earthen pots; with a pebble in one hand, to put into it, whilst they held in the other hand also a pebble, with which they knocked, to enlarge and smooth it. The pots so formed, they burnt with dry grass, or light brushwood. The men, in general, wore a thin stuff, that comes from the coco nut tree, and resembles a coarse kind of cloth, tied forward round the middle, and up behind, between the thighs. The women wore, in general, coarse blue Surat bastas, round their middle, not as a petticoat, but tucked up behind, like the men; so that the body and thigh were almost naked: as boys and girls

1775.
January.

girls go entirely. I have often observed the women with an ax or chopping knife, fixing posts for the stages, whilst the men were fauntering about idle. Early in a morning I have seen the men setting out in their boats, with two or three fox looking dogs,* for certain places to hunt the wild hog, which they call Ben: a dog they call Naf. I have frequently bought of them pieces of wild hog; which, however, I avoided carrying on board the galley, but dressed and eat it ashore, unwilling to give offence to the crew.

At anchor, I fired some swivel guns: the grown people did not regard this, or seem frightened, while the boys and girls ran along the stages, into the woods.

Saturday the 28th. Fresh winds, with squalls, but no rain. The clouds seemed to gather, and settle over the mountains of Arfak, which lie south of this harbour: they are exceeding high; higher than any of the mountains we had hitherto seen, to the westward, on this coast.

After passing the Cape of Good Hope, the promontory of Dory, from a large ship's deck, may be seen fifteen or sixteen leagues off, disjunct from New Guinea, and like an island. To get into Dory harbour, coast it along, at a reasonable distance: the flat points and the island Yowry will appear very plain. Having got beyond the last Flat Point, which is near the eastermost part of the promontory, you suddenly perceive an island (Manafwary): this must be kept on the

* Among small islands, the wild hogs often swim in a string, from one island to another, the hog behind leaning his snout on the rump of the one before. The hunters then kill them with ease.



1775.
January.

left. Steer mid channel, in fourteen and fifteen fathom water, sandy ground. Farther in, and to the westward of Manafwary,* is a smaller island, called Mafmapy; which must also be left on the same hand. When abreast of the island Mafmapy, that is, when the body of it bears about south, you will have fourteen fathom water, sandy ground: then look out for a sunk shoal of coral rocks, two foot deep, at low water, and at high water six: it is bold to. Keep it also on the left, and steer into the inner harbour, which will hold any number of ships, in soundings from twelve to five fathom water, muddy ground. Fresh water may be had in many places; wood every where. Dory harbour lies in latitude $00^{\circ} 21' S.$ longitude $131^{\circ} E.$

Schouten's island, as laid down by Dampier, bears E. S. E. from the Cape of Good Hope, and has its south coast undetermined by a dotted line.† The coast of New Guinea opposite to it is undetermined also.—As the promontory of Dory bears from the Cape in the same direction, and I can find no voyager has gone to the south of Schouten's island, I am apt to think it is the same land, which time alone will show.

Having opened the hold, about which we lately had been in great pain, we found our provisions greatly damaged. A tight chest saved many of my piece goods. The damaged I washed directly in fresh water, and was lucky in getting them well dried. It often threatened to rain, but did not; unlike the climate of Waygiou, where, as has been said, the clouds often break, and fall in rain unexpectedly.

* Plate XIII. † Plate XIV.