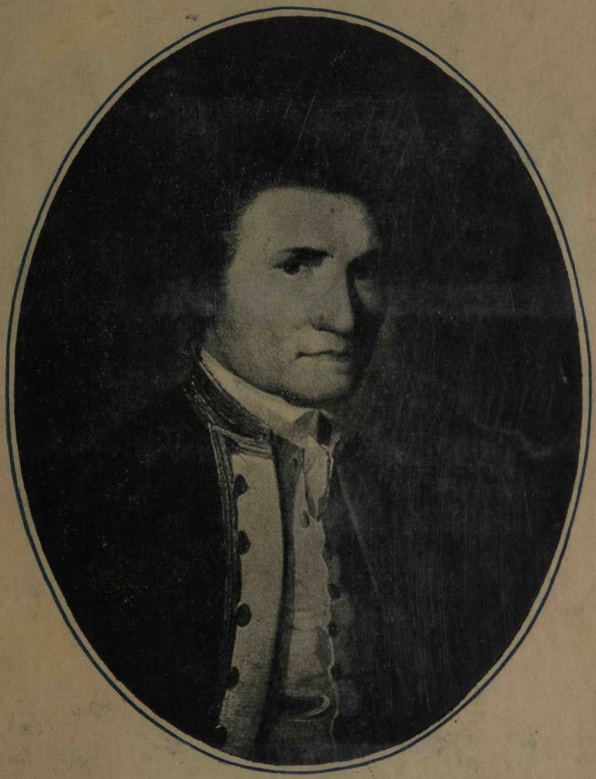
CAPTAIN COOK

HIS LIFE AND VOYAGES

By

MAURICE THIÉRY



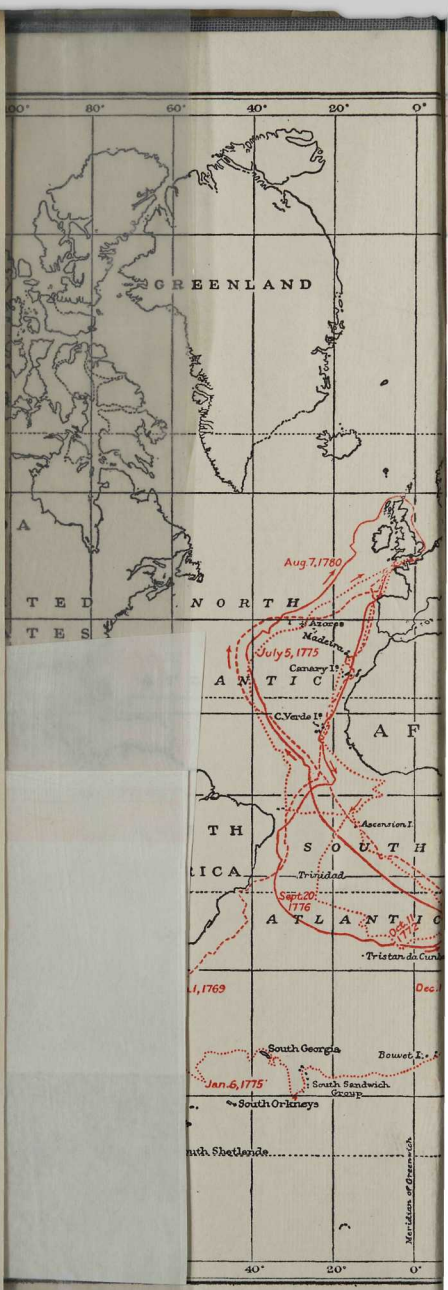
CAPTAIN JAMES COOK
(From the portrait in the National Portrait Gallery)

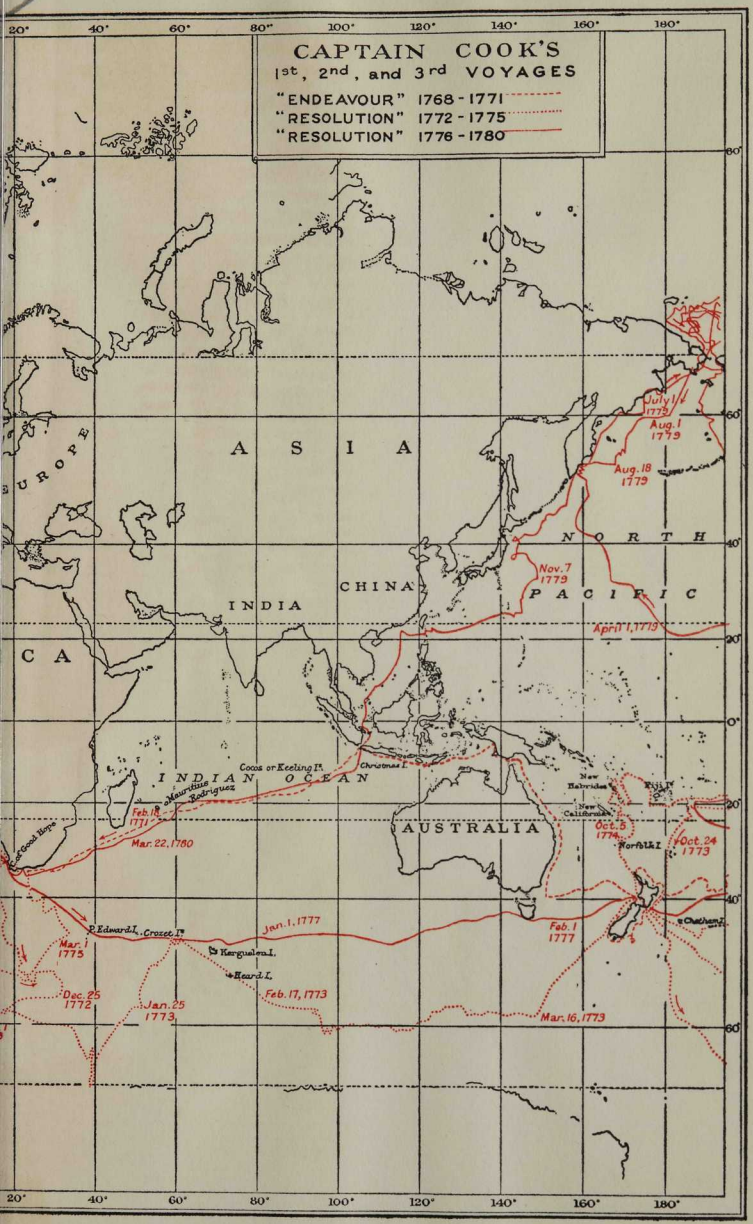
GEOFFREY BLES

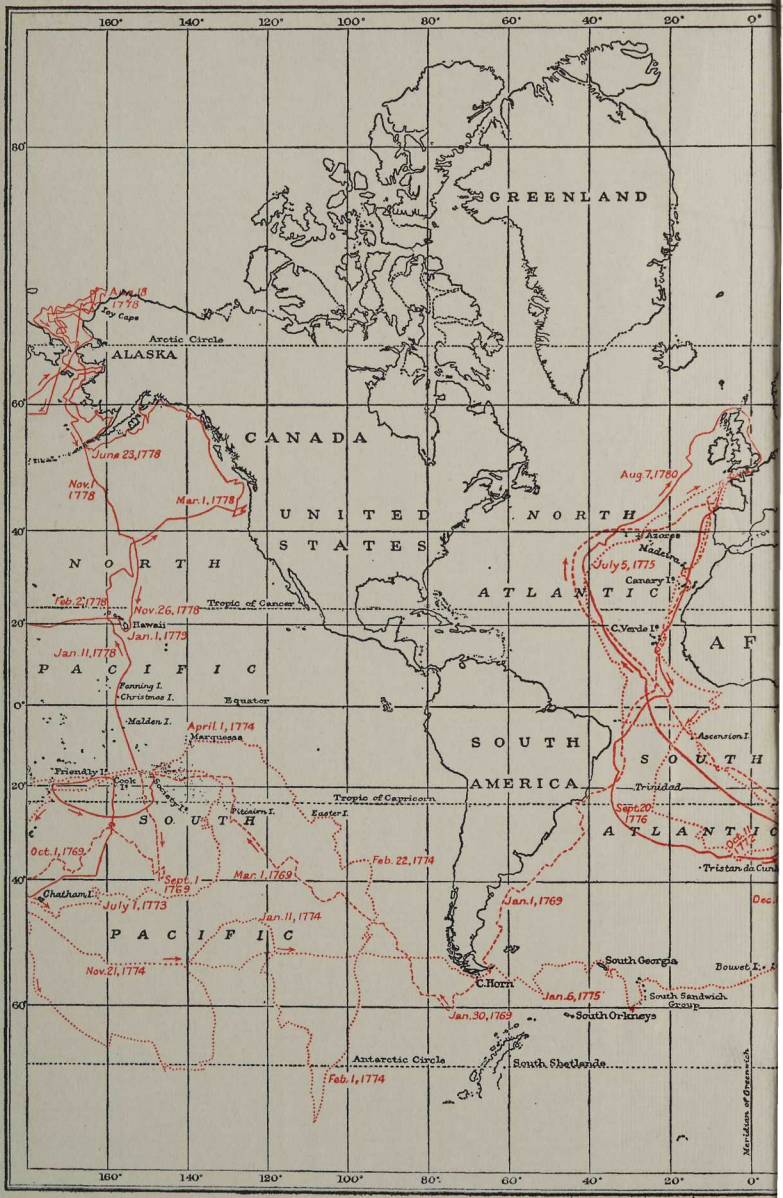
A FEW years before Captain Cook sailed away from Deptford for the Southern Seas, in order to observe the transit of Venus across the sun's disc, Jean-Jacques Rousseau had proclaimed in *Le Contrat Social* the doctrine that the wickedness of man was due to civilisation and that human perfection could only be found in primitive conditions. This amiable theory was not supported by Captain Cook's encounters with the "noble savage."

When the English sailors first landed at Matavai Bay, it is true that "the sociable Tahitian ladies seemed delighted with the newcomers, to whom they showed every politeness"; but at the subsequent ceremonial banquet given by the Chief of the island, "Dr. Solander suddenly discovered that a shagreen case containing a small pair of glasses had been taken from him, and, at the same time, Monkhouse, the ship's surgeon, discovered the loss of his precious snuff-box. . . ."

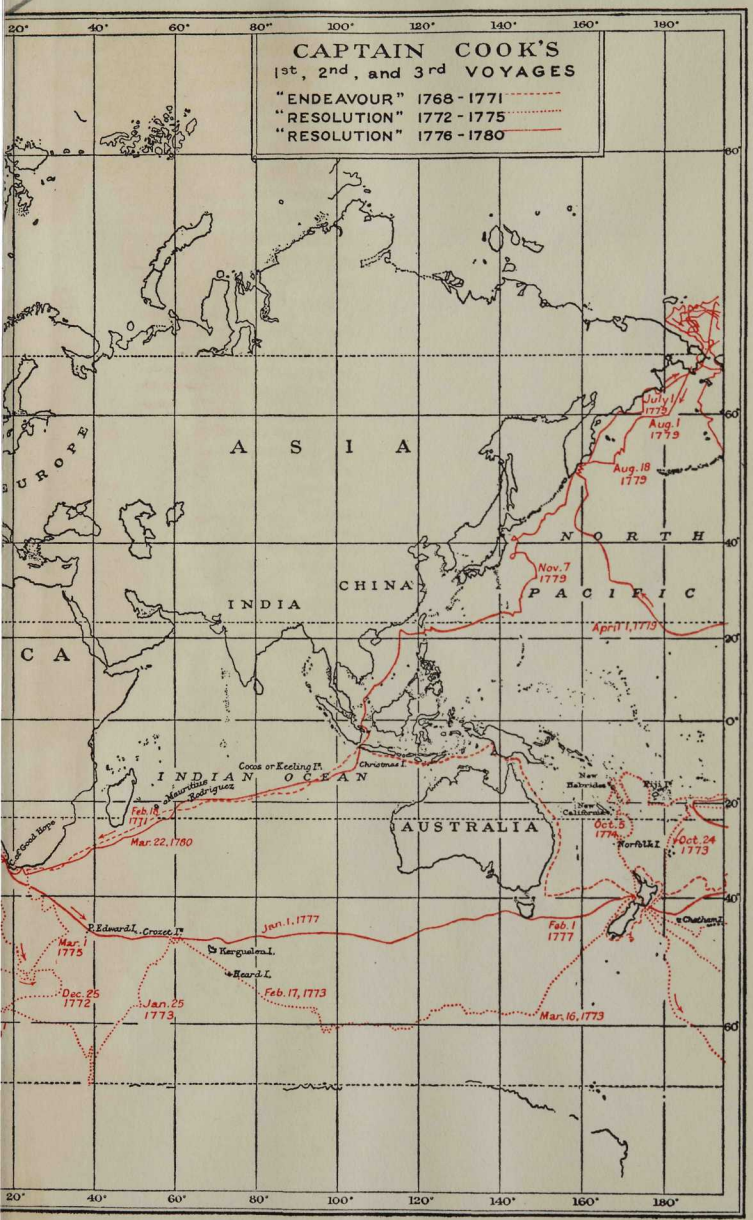
The Author describes many other curious incidents with a delightful irony, and presents a masterly portrait of the heroic figure of Captain Cook.

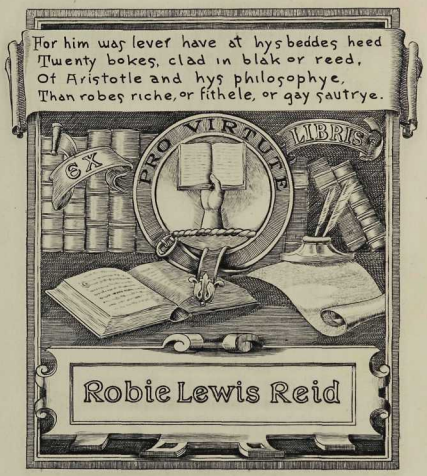



CAPTAIN COOK'S
1st, 2nd, and 3rd VOYAGES
"ENDEAVOUR" 1768-1771
"RESOLUTION" 1772-1775
"RESOLUTION" 1776-1780
20° 40° 60° 80° 100° 120° 140° 160° 180°
60°
40°
20°
0°
EUROPE
A S I A
INDIA
CHINA
N O R T H
P A C I F I C
INDIAN OCEAN
AUSTRALIA
Cocos or Keeling Is.
Christmas I.
Mauritius
Rodriguez
Good Hope
New Hebrides
New Caledonia
Fiji Is.
Norfolk I.
Chatham I.
P. Edward I.
Crozet Is.
Kerguelen I.
Heard I.
July 1 1779
Aug. 1 1779
Aug. 18 1779
Nov. 7 1779
April 1, 1779
Feb. 18 1771
Mar. 22, 1760
Oct. 5 1774
Oct. 24 1773
Jan. 1, 1777
Feb. 1 1777
Mar. 1 1775
Dec. 25 1772
Jan. 25 1773
Feb. 17, 1773
Mar. 16, 1773



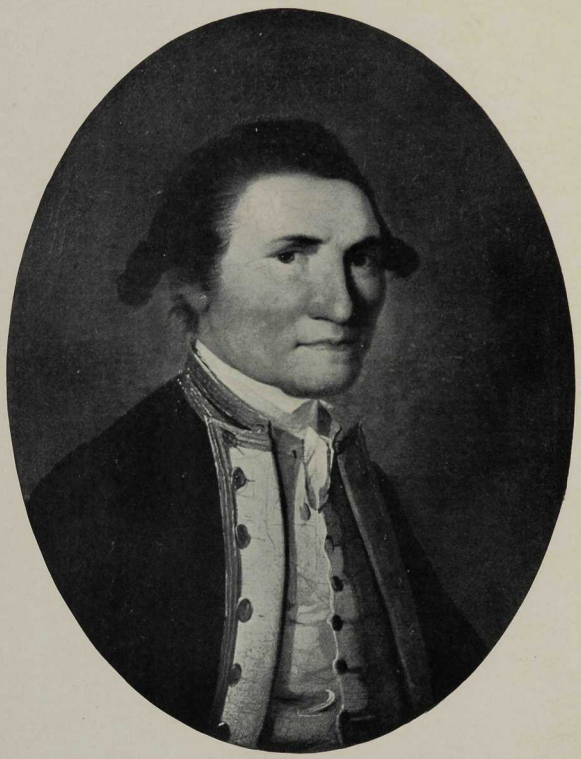
GREENLAND
CANADA
ALASKA
UNITED STATES
NORTH ATLANTIC
NORTH PACIFIC
SOUTH PACIFIC
SOUTH AMERICA
SOUTH ATLANTIC
Arctic Circle
Tropic of Cancer
Equator
Tropic of Capricorn
Antarctic Circle
Meridian of Greenwich
Icy Cape
Hawaii
Fanning I.
Christmas I.
Malden I.
Marquesas
Friendly I.
Cook
Pitcairn I.
Easter I.
Chatham I.
Azores
Madeira
Canary Is
C. Verde Is
Ascension I.
Trinidad
Tristan da Cun
South Georgia
Bouvet I.
South Sandwich Group
South Orkneys
South Shetlands
C. Horn
Aug. 18 1778
June 23, 1778
Nov. 1 1778
Mar. 1, 1778
Feb. 2, 1778
Nov. 26, 1778
Jan. 1, 1779
Jan. 11, 1778
April 1, 1774
Oct. 1, 1769
Sept. 1 1769
Mar. 1, 1769
July 1, 1773
Jan. 11, 1774
Nov. 21, 1774
Feb. 22, 1774
Feb. 1, 1774
Jan. 30, 1769
Jan. 6, 1775
Jan. 1, 1769
Sept. 20 1776
July 5, 1775
Aug. 7, 1780


CAPTAIN COOK'S
1st, 2nd, and 3rd VOYAGES
"ENDEAVOUR" 1768 - 1771
"RESOLUTION" 1772 - 1775
"RESOLUTION" 1776 - 1780
20° 40° 60° 80° 100° 120° 140° 160° 180°
EUROPE
A S I A
INDIA
CHINA
N O R T H
P A C I F I C
INDIAN OCEAN
AUSTRALIA
Mauritius
Rodriguez
Cocos or Keeling Is.
Christmas I.
New Hebrides
New Caledonia
Fiji Is.
Norfolk I.
Chatham I.
Kerguelen I.
Heard I.
Prince Edward I.
Crozet Is.
Cape of Good Hope
July 1 1779
Aug. 1 1779
Aug. 18 1779
Nov. 7 1779
April 1, 1779
Oct. 3 1774
Oct. 24 1773
Feb. 18 1771
Mar. 22, 1760
Jan. 1, 1777
Feb. 1 1777
Mar. 1 1775
Dec. 25 1772
Jan. 25 1773
Feb. 17, 1773
Mar. 16, 1773



The F. W. Howay and R. L. Reid
Collection of Canadiana
The University of British Columbia

THE LIFE AND VOYAGES OF CAPTAIN COOK



WEBBER'S PORTRAIT OF CAPTAIN COOK.
(*By permission of the Director of the National Portrait Gallery.*)

THE LIFE AND VOYAGES OF CAPTAIN COOK

BY
MAURICE
THIÉRY

Published by Geoffrey Bles at Twenty-two Suffolk Street, Pall Mall, London

La Vie et les Voyages du Capitaine Cook
Par Maurice Thiéry. Paris, 1929
Translated from the French by C. J. C. Street, 1929

153,098
HR
F5814.9
T4

Printed in Great Britain by
RICHARD CLAY & SONS, LIMITED
BUNGAY
Suffolk

AUTHOR'S NOTE

In the work here offered to the public an attempt has been made to present as animated a portrait as possible of the famous English navigator. With this end in view, among the extraordinary adventures of which the voyages of Captain Cook are full, those have been chosen which appear the most striking and most suitable in depicting the character of the man and the genius of the sailor. The object has been neither to cast a halo over the figure of James Cook nor to drown it beneath a flood of erudition. Truth and clarity have above all things been sought.

Among the documents and works consulted, the principal have been the *Journal of Captain Cook* (first, second and third voyages), the *Journal of Sir Joseph Banks* (first voyage), the *Journal of George Forster* (second voyage), and the *Journal of Lieutenant King* (third voyage).

Inspiration has also been found in the *Life of Captain Cook*, by Dr. Kippis (London, 1788), a fundamental work which has served as the basis for all subsequent biographies of the celebrated sailor.

Among modern works, two in particular have received attention: *Captain Cook*, by Sir Walter Besant (Macmillan, 1890), and *The Life of Captain James Cook*, by Arthur Kitson (Murray, 1907). The

originality of the former and the abundant documentation of the latter have been of assistance in throwing light upon certain facts which Cook and his companions, as well as Dr. Kippis, have left obscure.

Deep gratitude must also be expressed to those kind friends who have contributed certain documents belonging to Marton, Cook's birthplace, and Whitby, where he commenced his career.

MAURICE THIÉRY.

CONTENTS

PART ONE

YOUTH AND THE FIRST VOYAGE

CHAP.		PAGE
I.	THE CALL OF THE SEA	3
II.	EARLY YEARS	11
III.	IN THE KING'S SERVICE	18
IV.	BEFORE THE GREAT VOYAGE	27
V.	ON THE WAY TO TAHITI	34
VI.	TAHITI	42
VII.	NEW ZEALAND	53
VIII.	AUSTRALIA	65
IX.	THE RETURN TO ENGLAND	76

PART TWO

THE SECOND VOYAGE

I.	REST AND PREPARATIONS	85
II.	THE SOUTHERN ICE-FIELDS	94
III.	IN NEW ZEALAND AGAIN	100
IV.	TAHITI AND THE SOCIETY ISLANDS	108
V.	THE FRIENDLY ISLANDS	118
VI.	IN QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND AND THROUGH THE SOUTH SEAS	125
VII.	EASTER ISLAND AND THE MARQUESAS. RETURN TO THE SOCIETY ISLANDS	133
VIII.	THE FRIENDLY ISLANDS AND THE NEW HEBRIDES	143
IX.	NEW CALEDONIA, THE SOUTH SEAS, AND THE RETURN	151

CONTENTS

PART THREE

THE THIRD VOYAGE AND THE DEATH OF COOK

CHAP.		PAGE
I.	THE LAST STAY IN ENGLAND	163
II.	KERGUELEN AND VAN DIEMEN'S LAND	172
III.	NEW ZEALAND AGAIN. FRESH DISCOVERIES	181
IV.	ANNAMOOKA, HAAPAI, AND TONGATABU	191
V.	THE SOCIETY ISLANDS	199
VI.	THE SANDWICH ISLANDS AND THE WESTERN COAST OF NORTH AMERICA	211
VII.	THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN COOK	220
VIII.	TRIBUTES PAID TO CAPTAIN COOK'S MEMORY	229

ILLUSTRATIONS

	FACING PAGE
WEBBER'S PORTRAIT OF CAPTAIN COOK . .	*Frontispiece*
ENTRY OF BAPTISM OF CAPTAIN COOK	17
CAPTAIN COOK'S HOUSE AT GREAT AYTON . . .	32
"ENDEAVOUR" AT WHITBY BEFORE THE FIRST VOYAGE .	81
THE ONLY KNOWN SKETCHES OF "ENDEAVOUR" . .	96
"RESOLUTION" AND "DISCOVERY" IN KARAKAKOOA BAY	209
PAGE FROM "ENDEAVOUR'S" LOG BOOK . . .	224

PART ONE

YOUTH AND THE FIRST VOYAGE

CHAPTER I

THE CALL OF THE SEA

On the bare road over the high moorland, covered with fog, a young lad was going on his way alone. He was tall and slim, and had an open brow and a frank expression, to which his thick brown eyebrows gave a singular penetration, and his square chin a suggestion of determination. The pleasing face clearly expressed a will and an intelligence beyond his years in this child, as he proceeded on his way with a light step, his only luggage a small bundle on his shoulder.

Suddenly he turned. He had heard behind him the sound of a trotting horse and the rumble of carriage wheels. He stopped instinctively, to await the passing of the vehicle. He was glad to see a fellow creature, and he felt an ardent wish to speak to the man approaching him, no doubt a countryman like himself. For more than four hours he had been walking over the wide moor alone; he had not met a soul, nor heard any sound but the song of the wind.

The trap drew nigh. The driver had the squat and stolid look of a Yorkshire countryman. He was the first to speak. "Hullo, young man, where are you going to?" he shouted to the lad, who stood in the road looking at him.

"To Staithes, over there, by the sea," replied the boy, pointing towards the east. "How far is it?"

"Eight miles yet, my lad. Are you tired?"

"Tired? Not I!"

"Eh, but you're determined! Never mind, climb up just the same. I'm going to Staithes, too. Come on, look sharp! You can thank me as you go."

With this fresh load on board, the trap started off again, bumping over the uneven surface of the primitive road. Although uncommunicative and incurious, like all North-countrymen, the man could not help looking at his young companion, whose air of decision and open countenance interested him. "Where are you from?" he asked.

"From Great Ayton," was the answer. "You know, alongside the Cleveland hills, seven miles from here."

"Oh, yes, I know it. What's your name?"

"James Cook."

"Wait a bit. James Cook, James Cook—I know something of that name. Doesn't your father or one of your relations live at Marton? I often used to go there once, to see a cousin of mine, and I remember very well meeting a Cook, who worked on a farm belonging to William Walker."

"That's my father!" exclaimed the boy happily. "But five years ago we left Marton, where I was born, and went to Great Ayton. It's quite close."

"What is your father doing now?"

" He's working on Mr. Thomas Shottowe's farm. It's a fine place, is Airy Holme farm ! "

" I'm with you there. There isn't a bigger or a better-kept farm for twenty miles round. But, tell me, lad, how old are you ? "

" Thirteen—or rather I shall be on October 27th."

" You were born in 1728 ? "

" Yes."

" You look older than your age. Can you read ? "

" Oh, yes," replied James Cook proudly. " I can read, write, and I even know how to do sums."

Seeing that the countryman was looking at him in astonishment, he continued : " Mind you, I have been very lucky. Mistress Walker was kind enough to teach me my alphabet when I was quite small, at Marton, and at Great Ayton Mr. Shottowe paid for me to go to Mr. Pullen's school. My people aren't well off, so, you see, if it hadn't been for Mr. Shottowe's generosity I should have learnt nothing."

" And would you have been any worse off for that ? Book-learning isn't necessary to till the soil."

" But I'm not going to till the soil."

" What you, James Cook, a Cleveland lad—you mean to say you don't like the land ? It's against nature."

The boy blushed, and then, in a hesitating and timid voice, he replied, " I prefer the sea."

The man shouted with laughter. " Then you know all about the sea ? "

" No, I have never seen it."

"Well, then!"

"Well, I don't know why, but I prefer it."

The countryman shrugged his shoulders. "Well, here's a queer one," he muttered. Then he asked James aloud, "What are you going to do at Staithes?"

"I am going to be apprenticed for three years to Mr. William Saunderson, who keeps a grocer's and draper's shop on the quay."

"But that's not the sea!" exclaimed the man.

"No, but I shall see it every day," replied James Cook confidently.

The two travellers pursued their way in silence for an hour, across the lonely moorland. The horse ambled along, while the trap clattered and swung. The wind blew from seaward, bringing with it a tang of salt, which young Cook breathed in with all the force of his lungs.

Suddenly he stood up, as though impelled by a spring. Far away in front of him lay spread an expanse of greyish blue, on which the slanting rays of a pale sun drew circles of light. "Ah, isn't it lovely!" he cried with a youthful enthusiasm which made his companion smile.

As the trap proceeded, he could make out a line of high white cliffs, seamed with valleys, on the sides of which tiny cottages clustered. The dull roar of the sea began to make itself heard, the wind became keener, the road dipped and took a sudden turn. Red roofs came in sight. Soon they were in a steep and narrow street. One more turning, and they saw in

front of them a little bay, in which lay a fleet of fishing-smacks. A row of low, grey stone houses ran along the shore of the bay. The trap came to a halt.

"Here we are," said the countryman.

James Cook leapt to the ground and thanked his companion, who, by way of farewell, shouted to him sarcastically, "Hope the sea will bring you luck!"

The lad looked at the houses on the quay. Upon one of them he saw the inscription for which he was searching: "William Saunderson, Grocer and Draper." Light-heartedly, he entered the doorway.

The shop of the worthy William Saunderson did not, at least in the year 1745, present a particularly inviting appearance. The doorway had not known the touch of a paint-brush for an incalculable number of years. The interior was as gloomy as the crypt of a monastery. As soon as one's eyes got accustomed to the darkness, one could see on the right a counter on which lay side by side a majestic Cheshire cheese, piles of dried herrings—still drier from being where they were—thick sides of bacon, unidentifiable sweets and a heap of other commodities, all growing old gracefully in this gastronomical temple at Staithes. On the left was the haberdashery and drapery counter. Ancient slippers kept company with cotton bonnets and skeins of wool, which the gloom of several generations had despoiled of their pristine colours, endowing them in return with an anæmic and indefinable shade. Upon

the shelves which filled the wall behind the counter were arranged several pieces of cloth, whose tidiness revealed how rarely they were moved.

Mr. William Saunderson was a worthy proprietor of such an imposing establishment. He seemed to carry the gloom of his shop about with him. His long features were full of shadows, and his sad eyes seemed always ready to burst into tears at the sad fate which lay in store for the herrings he sold. Mr. Saunderson, in spite of his melancholy appearance, possessed one abiding love: he loved, or rather he adored, beer and rum. Several times a day he went across to the neighbouring inn, which bore the alluring sign of the "Cod and Lobster." Here he gave full rein to his passion, and it frequently happened that, towards evening, Mr. Saunderson cut off a slice of bacon instead of the quarter of cheese asked for by his customers.

Life was not always bright for Mr. William Saunderson's only apprentice. He slept under the counter, sharing his bed with blackbeetles, cockchafers and mice. He rose in the morning at five o'clock, swept, cleaned, washed and scrubbed. At seven o'clock he had his breakfast, consisting of a tankard of beer, a slice of bread and a rasher of bacon. Then all day he was on his feet, ready to serve customers or run errands. At the slightest mistake Mr. Saunderson withdrew from under the till a formidable stick, and, taking down his apprentice's trousers, administered several smart blows upon the plumper part of his body. He never gave a word of praise. Abuse and the stick

were the sole manifestations of the feelings of the grocer towards his assistant.

James Cook put up with this life uncomplainingly. Close beside him was his great consoler—the sea. He passed the few hours of leisure which he could snatch on the jetty of the little fishing harbour. This was the sailors' rendezvous, where they smoked their pipes while waiting for the tide. They took a liking to this young apprentice, who questioned them with such naïve earnestness. The old sea-dogs gave full rein to their imaginations, and spun the most amazing yarns. James Cook, all agog, treasured these marvellous stories in his heart. Once back in his master's shop, he dreamed of the strange images evoked by his friends the fishermen. He saw in imagination the luminous Northern dawns of the Arctic Ocean, the savage storms of the North Sea, the enormous suns of the tropics, vessels torn by enemy shot and sinking in the bottomless deep, the slow agonies of thirst, the brutal discipline of the lower deck, the cat-o'-nine-tails. . . . And, above this dreaming, the child felt the soaring, irresistible and mysterious, of the boundless poetry of the ocean.

One morning in July more than a year after James Cook first came to him, Mr. Saunderson came down into the shop, his head still heavy from last night's potations in the parlour of the "Cod and Lobster." His expression was even more threatening than usual. His apprentice had better look out! The

stick would not be idle to-day. Suddenly Mr. Saunderson's angry voice was heard. "James! Thief, scum, lazy swine, where are you?" The only answer to these endearments was silence. Mr. Saunderson, his stick in his hand, raged within the walls of his shop like a tamer in a lion's cage. But the lion had vanished. James Cook had run away, as all Mr. Saunderson's apprentices had run away one by one before him, unable to resist the mysterious call of the sea.

CHAPTER II

EARLY YEARS

TEN miles south of Staithes, on the Yorkshire coast, framed between two mighty cliffs, lies the very ancient port of Whitby. Built on the banks of a pretty little river, the Esk, which falls into the sea there, and dominated by the ruins of the old Abbey of St. Hilda, Whitby, which once bore the euphonious name of Streonshalh, seems to have retained the imprint of the heroic age, in the character of its old streets, its old houses, and its old church, which is reached by a stairway of a hundred and ninety-nine steps. In its stones and in its people it seems to retain something of the creeds, the legends, and the superstitions which flourished in those far-off days when the Britons, the Romans, the Saxons, the Danes and the Normans successively occupied this corner of the Northern coast, so perfectly situated and so solidly sheltered.

In 1742 Whitby had a population of ten thousand. It was an important shipbuilding centre, and the biggest coal port in the district. It was also the port of departure for merchant ships bound for Norway, Sweden, Germany and Russia.

On this July morning the activity of the port is at its zenith. The anchorage is crowded with craft of

all sorts: big three-masted sailing-ships, sloops, fishing-boats. The great sheds on the quay resound with hammer-strokes, beating heavily upon the hulls of vessels on the slips. A crowd of sailors, dock-labourers and fish merchants swarms upon the edge of the water.

With his back against the wooden parapet, a sailor smokes his pipe placidly. He has the swarthy face, clear eyes, and stooping back of a seafaring man. He watches with an air of indifference the bustle surrounding him. It is easy to see that everything is familiar to him, that the port is "his port," that he knows all the passers-by. He replies to the frequent greetings of his friends—"Good-day, Bill"—with a broad smile.

It is a bright morning, and the sea is almost blue. It is good to be alive. Bill is in a happy mood, and the clouds of smoke which he draws from his pipe symbolise the flight of his cheerful thoughts.

"Beg pardon, mister, but I want to sign on as a cabin-boy!"

"What's that?"

"Yes, I want to go away in one of those ships."

"You mean it?"

"You bet, mister!"

"All right. Come with me." And Bill leads the lad who has thus accosted him at a leisurely pace to a narrow street, not far from the quay-side. He stops before a door to which is affixed a shining copper plate, bearing the inscription "Messrs. John and

Henry Walker, Merchants." He knocks and goes in, followed by James Cook, for Bill's new acquaintance is none other than Mr. Sanderson's runaway assistant.

A gentleman with a severe expression sits at a long table, littered with maps and papers. He raises his head and says curtly, "What do you want, Bill?"

"I've got a lad here, sir, who tells me he wants to be a cabin-boy. He looks as if he meant it, so I brought him along."

"Very well, thank you." And as the sailor departs, Mr. John Walker looks searchingly at the boy.

The examination appeared favourable. "You know that it's a hard life that you mean to take up?"

"Yes, sir, but I shall love it."

"Have you your father's consent?"

"No, sir, but he will not refuse to give it to me."

"Give me his address, and I will write to him. While I am waiting for his answer, you can work here."

His heart bursting with joy, James Cook left Mr. Walker's office and went on to the quay, where he soon found and thanked his new acquaintance, Bill, who satisfied his young friend's curiosity. He explained to him that he was a hand on board the *Freelove*, a vessel of 450 tons, engaged in the coal trade along the shores of the North Sea. The *Freelove* belonged to Messrs. John and Henry Walker, who owned besides a number of other vessels, and who were among the biggest merchants in Whitby. These

two brothers were Quakers, and, following the tenets of this curious faith, drank no beer or rum and never raised their hats to anybody, this honour being due only to Jesus Christ. They were stern men, but strictly just and genuinely good. No sailing was done during the winter. The men were employed in repairing and rigging Messrs. Walker's ships. The cabin-boys stayed with these gentlemen when they were on shore, and were well off there.

Three days later Mr. John Walker called James Cook into his office. "I have received your father's consent," he told him. "I will take you on for three years as an apprentice. Afterwards, if you give satisfaction, we will see. In a week you will join the *Freelove*."

James, trembling with emotion, signed the articles which the shipowner gave him. His dearest wish was realised. He was to be a sailor.

The life of a boy on board a collier was not an easy one. Work was hard, rest infrequent, and food scanty. There was no lack of blows, and the rope's end was not idle. Then there were terrible storms in which one felt so small and powerless! James Cook bore all this bravely, for, having freely chosen his destiny, he accepted the discomforts of his new life without complaint. The open air inspired him with fresh energy, when otherwise he felt miserable and downcast. He carried his head high, and applied himself with all his heart to the trade he loved. He

taught himself with avidity the things pertaining to the sea.

When the *Freelove* returned to Whitby, James Cook was employed in Messrs. Walker's yard. There the vessels were fitted out, carefully made ready for future voyages, and the young ship's boy probed the most obscure details of that meticulous and cunning operation, the rigging of a ship. During this period he lodged with his employers.

An elderly spinster with white hair presided over the domestic side of the Walker establishment. She was kind and good, and lavished on the young apprentices a little of the feminine care of which they were deprived. James Cook, with his loyal and honest face and his good manners, rapidly gained the favour of the old housekeeper. One evening he begged her to give him a candle and let him remain after dinner in the room where he and his comrades had their meals. In reply to the amazement of the lady, little accustomed to such requests, he explained to her, blushing, that he had bought a book on arithmetic and one on geography. From this day forward, every evening in winter, by the light of a smoking candle, James Cook read alone, at a corner of the big table, far into the night.

After several voyages in the *Freelove*, James Cook joined a new collier of 600 tons, the *Three Brothers*, upon the rigging of which he had worked himself. In the *Three Brothers* he made the usual trips along the

shores of the North Sea. He even went to Norway. His knowledge of seamanship became daily more accurate, wider and deeper.

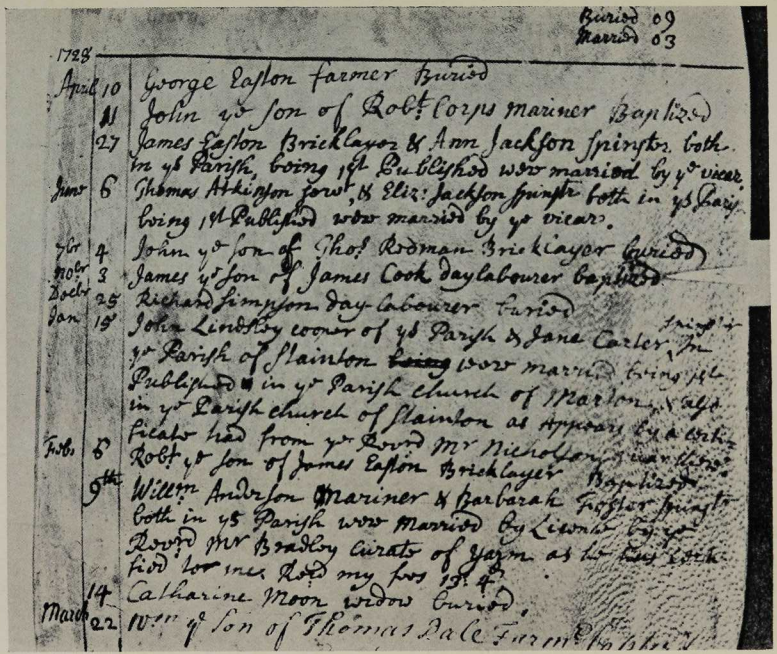
At the end of his three years' apprenticeship he was promoted to what seemed to him the exalted rank of ordinary seaman. Sober and industrious, he continued to teach himself with admirable tenacity and perseverance.

The years rolled by, filled with a strenuous round of voyages and long winters on shore, when he toiled steadily in the sheds at Whitby. Cook sailed in several ships. In 1750 he traversed the Baltic in the *Maria*, a trading-ship belonging to Mr. John Wilkinson of Whitby, whose captain was a relation of the Walkers.

One morning in the year 1752 James Cook was called into the presence of Mr. John Walker, in the same office which he had entered ten years earlier, rich in his dream and strong of will. "James Cook," said Mr. Walker solemnly, "your conduct has always been good since you came here for the first time. I have never had any fault to find with you. By your efforts and your perseverance you have made of yourself a true sailor. James Cook, my brother and I have decided to appoint you mate of the *Friendship*."

And Mr. Walker held out his hand to the young man of twenty-four who stood before him, too deeply moved to be able to express his immense delight and infinite gratitude.

For three years James Cook performed the functions



Buried 09
Married 03

1728

April 10 George Easton farmer Buried
11 John ye son of Robt. Corps mariner Baptized
27 James Easton Bricklayer & Ann Jackson spinster both in ys Parish, being 1st Published were married by ye vicar.
June 6 Thomas Atkinson sowt, & Eliz: Jackson spinstr both in ys Parish being 1st Published were married by ye vicar.
7br 4 John ye son of Thos Redman Bricklayer buried
Novbr 3 James ye son of James Cook daylabourer baptized
Decbr 25 Richard Simpson day-labourer buried
Jan 15 John Lindsley cooper of ys Parish & Jane Carter spinstr in ye Parish of Stainton ~~being~~ were married being 1st Published in ye Parish church of Marton, & also in ye Parish church of Stainton as Appears by a certificate had from ye Revd Mr Nicholson [illegible]
Feb. 6 Robt. ye son of James Easton Bricklayer Baptized
9th Willm Anderson Mariner & Barbarah Foster spinstr both in ys Parish were married by Licence by ye Revd Mr Bradley Curate of Yarm as he has certified to me. Recd my fees 13. 4d.
14 Catharine Moon widow buried.
March 22 Wm ye son of Thomas Dale Farmr [illegible]

Portion of Page in Register of St. Cuthbert's, Marton-in-Cleveland, showing Entry of Baptism of Captain Cook.

(*By permission of Dr. H. G. Drake-Brockman.*)

of mate of the *Friendship*, a collier of 400 tons, with authority and competence.

In June 1755 the vessel was lying at anchor in the Thames, in the great port of London, when, like a train of powder, the news spread of war with France. War, naval war! James Cook remembered the stories of naval engagements which he had heard long ago, in the evenings on the jetty at Staithes, from the lips of the old fishermen. His young blood was fired. He saw, as in a flash of boundless ambition, an avenue of glory stretching before him. "I will try my luck at this game," he said to himself, and, with his customary decision, he enlisted in the Royal Navy.

CHAPTER III

IN THE KING'S SERVICE

THE Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, so disastrous to France, by which Louis XV, in 1748, had wished to make peace "not like a shopkeeper, but like a king," had been regarded by the French and English colonies in North America as a truce to be employed in fortifying themselves against one another. Incidents were of constant occurrence, and in June 1754 a state of open hostilities obtained in America, although the capitals were unaware of it.

At the beginning of 1755 the Government of His Majesty George II, King of England, decided to send a fleet into American waters, with the aim of protecting their colonies in the New World. The English Admiral was ordered to attack any French squadron that might be cruising in those waters. These instructions were officially notified to the Court of France. Louis XV replied that the first shot fired on a vessel flying the French flag would be equivalent to a declaration of war. This shot was fired on June 6th, and although war was not formally declared until May 17th of the following year, peace had practically ceased to exist between France and England since June 6th, 1755.

Resolved to take definite possession of all the terri-

tories of North America, and to drive from them for good and all the French and Spanish, England shrank from no sacrifice to achieve this ambitious ideal. The British Fleet was increased in the course of the war from 345 to 422 vessels, and the Prime Minister, Pitt, sent to the help of the English colonists in America, already strong, more than 35,000 troops. Meanwhile, France watched the great American drama with supreme indifference. Voltaire could not understand why time was wasted in disputing with England for possession of " a few acres of snow," and d'Argenson declared that he would give all the French colonies in the Indies and America " for a pin's head."

It is necessary to understand this lamentable state of mind in order to explain how, during the whole of the struggle, the heroic Montcalm, who commanded the weak French army in Canada, only received 326 men as a reinforcement.

In order to carry out its great naval effort, the British Government had recourse to impressment, or the forced levy of seamen. It often happened that young countrymen who had never even been to the seaside were forced to embark in His Majesty's ships. There were therefore a large number of wholly inefficient sailors, and ships' captains did not fail to pick out those who had some knowledge of seaman ship.

When James Cook enlisted as a common sailor in the *Eagle*, a ship of the line of sixty guns, his superior, Captain Hamer, and then, a few months later, Captain

Hugh Palliser, who succeeded him, were quick to notice the sharp knowledge of his business and the absolute sense of duty which were exhibited by the late mate of the *Friendship*.

Thus it came about that James Cook attained without delay the rank of mate.[1] It was in this capacity that he took part in several cruises and a few engagements in the Channel, among which was the capture of the French vessel *Duc d'Aquitaine*.

One day Captain Palliser received a letter from Mr. Osbaldiston, member for the Borough of Scarborough, in which the latter said that "several of his neighbours had begged him to write recommending young Cook. They had learnt that Captain Palliser had recognised the good conduct of their fellow-citizen, and they were anxious that the Member for Scarborough should, with the Captain's sanction, work for the advancement of Cook." To this letter, obviously inspired by Mr. Shottowe of Great Ayton and Mr. Walker of Whitby, who wished to assist by every means in his power the sailor who had served him so

[1] Cook's appointment as "mate" and subsequently "master" may require a word of explanation. At this time His Majesty's ships carried, in addition to the Captain and Lieutenants, a Master, or Sailing Master, and one or more Mates, who were frequently drawn, as in Cook's case, from the Merchant Service. Their function was primarily navigation, seamanship and pilotage, as apart from that of fighting, controlled by the Captain and Lieutenants. This system was a survival from the days when no fighting ships as such existed, a navy being improvised in time of war by placing fighting men on merchant ships.—*Translator's note.*

well and faithfully for nearly thirteen years, Captain Palliser replied in terms doing full justice to the genuine merits of Cook. He added, however, "that he had as yet been too short a time in the Service to secure an officer's post at present, and that it would be better for him to secure him a master's warrant, because, in that capacity, he would be better able to display his capabilities and to prove that he deserved the full confidence of his superiors."

In 1757 James Cook was drafted to a brand new ship of the line, the *Pembroke*, which in the following year took part in the capture of Louisberg, an advanced port of the French on the Atlantic. Louisberg, although already half dismantled, resisted for two months the bombardment of forty-two English ships commanded by Admiral Boscawen, and surrendered on July 25th, 1758.

But the war continued without respite. A general of thirty-two, Wolfe, conceived the bold project of pushing straight on to Quebec, by the St. Lawrence, and so take Montcalm by surprise there. The British Government placed at Wolfe's disposal the powerful squadron commanded by Admiral Sir Charles Saunders, to which was attached a ship of the line, in which James Cook had just been appointed master. The siege of Quebec began. But, before proceeding further up the St. Lawrence, it was necessary to take soundings, between the Île d'Orléans and the northern shore, opposite the camp of Montmorency and de Beauport, where the French army was

entrenched. Admiral Saunders' object was to place his vessels before the hostile batteries in order to bombard them and mask Wolfe's army, which was to take the position by surprise. A man of courage and great skill was required to take these soundings. The Admiral made inquiries, and Captain Palliser strongly recommended to him the young James Cook, whose intelligence and courage had come under his notice in the *Eagle*. James Cook was told off for this duty, as important as it was delicate. Unable to carry out the enterprise by day, Cook set off by night in a small boat to accomplish the mission with which he had been entrusted. For seven nights he surveyed the river with remarkable exactitude. But the French observed him, and sent after him several boats, chiefly manned by Indians. Cook made off, and by dint of hard rowing succeeded in reaching the shore of the Île d'Orléans, where some English troops were stationed. At the very moment that he leapt ashore, several Indians leapt into the stern of his boat. He made his escape, but the boat was carried off in triumph by the Indians, elated with their victory.

Some days later, James Cook, who in the little school at Great Ayton, which he had left at the age of twelve, had not even had the chance of learning the elements of drawing, laid before the Admiral a chart of that part of the river which he had been ordered to survey, traced by his own hand. This chart was so clearly drawn that the Admiral gave instructions that Cook should be employed in surveying the channels

of the river below Quebec, which contained so many dangers to navigation. Cook brought to this second task the same intelligence which he had exhibited on the first, and when he had completed it the chart of the St. Lawrence was published with all instructions necessary for vessels to navigate the waters of the great river without danger. So great was the accuracy of Cook's work that even now his chart is in use among Canadian pilots, and serves as the model for the hydrographical surveys of the district.

All the commanders warmly congratulated this young sailor, who had displayed such remarkable abilities on all the missions with which he had been entrusted. At the end of September of this same year, 1759, James Cook was appointed master to the *Northumberland*, a first-rater, commanded by Captain Lord Colville, Commodore of a squadron on the American station. They wintered in this port, and Cook, whose ambition was growing, proceeded to acquire the knowledge which would enable him one day to wear the uniform of a lieutenant or captain. The master acted as had the little Whitby cabin-boy. He studied with avidity. But his attention was no longer concentrated upon elementary treatises on arithmetic or geography. During the long winter evenings he pored over Euclid and learned astronomical works.

In 1762 the *Northumberland* was ordered to Newfoundland, in order to assist General Amherst to capture this island from the French, who, in face of

the superior strength of the British forces, were soon to yield possession to England. The British fleet then lay for some time in Placentia Bay, in order to fortify the harbour. Cook was entrusted with the duty of drawing the plan of the harbour and the heights commanding it. This he did with his usual skill, and elicited the notice and esteem of Captain Graves, commanding the *Antelope*, and Governor of Newfoundland.

On October 24th, 1762, the *Northumberland* returned to Spithead, England's great naval base. James Cook received his discharge. Some weeks later he learnt of a letter which Lord Colville, the *Northumberland's* captain, had written to the Secretary of the Admiralty, in which he spoke of his master's "genius and capacity." Cook was proud and happy. Life, sternly begun and sternly continued, now smiled upon him.

He was thirty-four, over six feet tall, spare and muscular. The face of the child journeying over the Yorkshire moorland had acquired in the man an expression of surprising determination and energy. His forehead was wide, his eyebrows were bushy, his eye was piercing and commanding. He had personality.

This personality made the conquest of a charming girl of the middle classes, Elizabeth Batts, whose parents lived in Essex, a few miles east of London. Elizabeth was rosy and fair, as English girls can be. James Cook, who until then had scarcely had leisure

for poetical idylls, bowed himself at the sight of this delightful child to the eternal law of love. A month after the return of the *Northumberland*, on December 21st, 1762, the bells of St. Margaret's, Barking, sounded a wedding peal for James Cook and Elizabeth Batts.

A short time afterwards they installed themselves in a comfortable little house in the East of London. But the joys of a prolonged honeymoon are not for sailors. The sea, that exacting mistress, claims them, and, four months after his marriage, James Cook embarked for Newfoundland.

After the Treaty of Paris, "the baptism of England's world-power," had been signed on February 10th, 1763, Captain Graves, Governor of Newfoundland, then in London, asked for a commission to map out the coast. Having observed in the preceding year the remarkable ability which James Cook had displayed in drawing up the chart of the bay of Placentia, he asked him for his assistance. Cook accepted without hesitation, and in April 1763 he sailed with the Governor in the capacity of surveyor.

At first he was employed in mapping the islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, which remained to France. Captain Graves would not allow M. d'Anjac, the new French Governor, to disembark until Cook's work was finished.

At the end of the autumn Cook returned to England. His stay there was short, for his chief patron, Captain Hugh Palliser, appointed Commodore and Governor

of Newfoundland and Labrador, was unwilling to leave for his new post without taking with him his old hand on board the *Eagle*, of whom he had made a friend. James Cook therefore embarked at the beginning of 1764 with the title of Naval Engineer for Newfoundland and Labrador. He continued the work which he had begun the previous year, and with perfect accuracy compiled the chart of the coasts of Newfoundland. He even explored the interior of the island, discovering several lakes.

In 1766, an eclipse of the sun taking place, Cook wrote a monograph on the subject which was communicated to the Royal Society of London by the learned Dr. Bevis, who gave full credit to the mathematical and astronomical knowledge of the surveyor of Newfoundland.

For three years Cook performed his duties with his customary zeal and skill. Each winter he returned to England and the fair Elizabeth, who had presented him with three children.

In the autumn of 1767, having finished his work, he returned to enjoy a few months rest in his house in Mile End Road. His reputation had spread, and he was considered at the Admiralty one of the most expert navigators in the British Navy. It was this deserved fame which was to point him out as the man to carry his country's flag into unknown seas.

CHAPTER IV

BEFORE THE GREAT VOYAGE

In 1573 the illustrious English sailor, Francis Drake, was cruising in the Caribbean. Having landed with a few men on the eastern coast of the isthmus of Panama, he penetrated into the interior. At the top of a hill stood a gigantic tree. Drake mounted the hill and climbed to the top of the tree. From this vantage point he saw, in a haze of light, the scintillating waters of two oceans: on his left the Atlantic, and on his right the mysterious Pacific, which the Spaniard Balboa had discovered sixty years earlier, and into which English vessels had never penetrated. "Almighty God!" cried Drake, "I beg Thee of Thy mercy not to let me die without having allowed me once to steer an English ship upon this sea." His prayer was heard, and Drake sailed round the world.

For a century and a half after his time few English navigators ventured into the Pacific. There were certainly Cavendish, who carried off the enormous galleon, laden with gold; Dampier, who in 1700 discovered between New Britain and New Guinea the strait which bears his name; John Cook, and a few others who find place in the history of corsairs rather than of navigators. In spite of these expeditions, the star of England did not shine in the southern

firmament before the second half of the eighteenth century.

The Spaniards, to whom Magellan had shown the way in 1519, considered the great ocean as their own property. Their enterprising sailors, Ponce de Leon, Don Garcia, Jofre de Loyasa, Juan Fernandez, Alvaro Mendana de Neyra, Pedro Fernandes de Quiros and Luiz-Vaez de Torrès, exhibited the standard of His Most Catholic Majesty for over a century in the southern seas. They made discovery after discovery, and it seemed that Spain was destined to remain for ever Mistress of the Pacific. However, in the seventeenth century, the Dutch, whose naval power had reached formidable dimensions, began to explore the new ocean. They sent there Le Maire, Schouten and Tasman, who, setting sail from Batavia in 1642, discovered Van Diemen's land, part of the western coast of New Zealand and the Friendly Isles. The Dutch empire spread, while the sun of Spain declined.

Between 1764 and 1769, three Englishmen, Commodore Byron, Captain Wallis and Captain Carteret, added to the chart of the Pacific by their discoveries of the Society Islands, the Queen Charlotte group, and of several lesser archipelagoes.

In 1766 the intrepid Bougainville, who had been Montcalm's lieutenant in Canada, left France in the frigate *La Boudeuse*, and, having remained for some time on the coast of Brazil and in the Falkland Islands, entered the Pacific through the Straits of Magellan in January 1768.

In the course of his voyage, which proved fertile in discoveries, Bougainville passed through the New Hebrides, then to the northward of New Ireland. He called at Batavia and arrived in France in March 1769. As the Dutch had put a spoke in the Spanish wheel, so French and English were about to put a stop to Dutch expansion in the Pacific.

On February 15th, 1768, the Royal Society of London presented a memorial to His Britannic Majesty, King George III. It was set forth in this memorial that the transit of Venus across the sun's disc, which was to take place in 1769, could advantageously be observed in the Southern Seas, either in the Marquesas, or on one of the islands which Tasman had named Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and Middelburg. His Majesty was petitioned to "equip, at the nation's expense, a vessel to carry the astronomers who were going to observe the transit of Venus upon one of the islands of the South Seas."

The King replied that he would be glad to see the execution of the project, and on April 3rd following, Mr. Stephens, the Secretary of the Admiralty, informed the Royal Society that they had only to nominate the observers who were to embark. An eminent hydrographer, Mr. Alexander Dalrymple, a Fellow of the Royal Society, was at first chosen to lead the expedition, but, foreseeing the difficulty which he would encounter in piloting, in these unknown seas, a vessel the crew of which was not commanded by officers of the Royal Navy, he declared that he would not set sail unless

he was given the rank of ship's captain, as had been done before in the case of Dr. Halley. The latter was a learned astronomer who, in 1699, had been appointed to the command of the *Paramour* and left for the South Seas in this ship in order to carry out researches upon longitudes and the variations of the compass. His crew had mutinied and refused to obey their astronomer-captain. Owing to this, the expedition did not accomplish all that it might have done.

Sir Edward Hawke, who was at the head of the Admiralty, basing himself upon Dr. Halley's experiences, refused Mr. Dalrymple's request. He declared that his conscience would never allow him to entrust one of the King's ships to a man who was not a sailor. Since the hydrographer insisted, the Minister swore that he would sooner have his right hand cut off than sign such a commission. Mr. Dalrymple replied that he was determined to gain his point, and that he would gain it. Things had reached this pitch, and threatened to remain there, when the Secretary, Mr. Stephens, suggested, with manifest common sense, that since Sir Edward Hawke and Mr. Dalrymple were equally resolute, it would be necessary to choose another leader for the projected expedition. He added that he knew Mr. Cook, and that since Mr. Cook had been a master in the King's service and engineer-geographer of Newfoundland, he believed him to be a fit person to satisfy the desires of the Royal Society and of the Admiralty. He said besides that Sir Hugh Palliser,

Governor of Newfoundland, would furnish testimonials on behalf of Cook. Mr. Stephens' words, being words of wisdom, were heeded by the learned Society during the discussions in which had been felt the unwonted breath of mundane tempests. Sir Hugh Palliser, upon being consulted, supported with all his influence the recommendation of Mr. Stephens, and declared that he was well aware of the skill and worth of Mr. Cook. It was thus that James Cook was appointed by the Lords of the Admiralty in the place of Mr. Dalrymple to the command of the expedition entrusted with the observation in the South Seas of the transit of Venus across the sun's disc.

As soon as he was informed of his appointment, Cook began his search for a ship fit to undertake the long and perilous journey of which the responsibility would hereafter be his. Accompanied by Sir Hugh Palliser, he visited several ships which happened to be at anchor in the Thames. The choice of both fell upon a solidly-built craft of 370 tons, engaged in the coal trade and built at Whitby. Her birthplace seemed of good augury to Cook, who bought her for £2500 and renamed her the *Endeavour*.

While the *Endeavour* was fitting out, Captain Wallis returned in his ship the *Dolphin* from his voyage round the world. The President of the Royal Society had asked Wallis upon his departure to look for a place whence the transit of Venus could most efficiently

be observed. The latter declared on his return that he had discovered an island, which he had named George Island, and that he was certain that a harbour in this island would be suitable for the astronomical observations contemplated by the Royal Society. It was thereupon decided that the island, called by its inhabitants Tahiti or Otahiti, should be the first objective of the scientific expedition.

The organisation proceeded rapidly. Cook signed on a complement of eighty-five men, consisting, besides the officers, of a surgeon, carpenter and other tradesmen, forty-one experienced seamen, twelve marines, and nine servants. The vessel was victualled for eighteen months, and was armed with ten carronades and twelve swivel-guns, with the necessary ammunition and stores.

The scientists who were to sail in the *Endeavour* were as follows. Charles Green, an eminent astronomer, Joseph Banks, a very young and very rich scientist who had already made a considerable name for himself as a botanist, and Dr. Solander, a disciple of Linnæus, the famous Swedish naturalist, and a naturalist himself. Mr. Banks brought with him an assistant, three draughtsmen, and four servants, two white and two coloured.

On May 25th Cook received his commission as lieutenant, and on the 27th he hoisted the English ensign on the *Endeavour* at Deptford, on the Thames. On July 30th he dropped down the river, and on August 14th anchored in Plymouth Sound, where he

Captain Cook's House at Great Ayton.

(*By permission of Harold Hood, Esq.*)

completed his arming and provisioning. On August 24th everyone was on board, and two days later, on August 26th, 1768, the *Endeavour*, under the command of a man of genius, and with all sail set, put out on her great adventure.

CHAPTER V

ON THE WAY TO TAHITI

THE *Endeavour* put in at Funchal, in the island of Madeira, on September 13th, eighteen days after leaving Plymouth. An unfortunate accident occurred during the night. While raising an anchor, the mate was flung into the sea by the cable and drawn down by the anchor. It was only possible to recover his dead body. The sea had already claimed its first victim. Cook remained at Funchal no longer than five days, during which he, his officers and the distinguished passengers on board the *Endeavour* were warmly received by the English consul and the English colony in the town. Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander began collecting plants. Cook and his scientific followers visited the environs of Funchal and were welcomed with great politeness in a Franciscan convent, the monks inviting them to return on the morrow to enjoy a roast turkey. But time pressed, and the invitation could not be accepted.

The Englishmen also visited a community of nuns, who, having heard that very learned men were of their company, bombarded them with extravagant questions. They asked them, for instance, when it would thunder, and if they could find within the walls of the

convent a spring of water, of which they stood in need. The devoted ladies, who upon entering religion had omitted to take a vow of silence, let loose a torrent of foolish questions upon their complacent visitors.

Before putting to sea, Cook took on board a large quantity of fresh water, fresh beef, wine and fruit. He deferred as long as he could the consumption by his crew of salt meat, which was one of the causes of scurvy, that slow illness of the blood which is the scourge of seamen. Cook fought this complaint, which he was able to conquer definitely after his second voyage, more resolutely than any doctor. Watching with an anxious care over the health of the crew, he ordered, while at Funchal, twelve lashes apiece to two men who had refused to eat their ration of fresh meat.

The *Endeavour* pursued her way down the Atlantic without any striking incident. The equator was crossed with the usual ceremonies. The naturalists captured strange fish and killed curious birds. One night they were favoured with the marvellous spectacle of a phosphorescent sea, and, having cast a net overboard, they collected an unknown specimen of medusa, and came to the conclusion that the phenomenon, till then unexplained, was produced by these creatures.

On November 13th Cook anchored in Rio de Janeiro, where his relations with the Viceroy were only superficially cordial. This haughty representa-

tive of Spain, who had earlier treated Bougainville in the same way, discovered every possible means of annoyance and vexation, alleging throughout the regulations of the harbour and the instructions which he had received. He was without intelligence or education. When the endeavour was made to make him understand that the Englishmen had been sent to the South Seas to observe the transit of Venus, all that he could gather was that the North Star was about to journey to the South Pole.

Having provided himself with the necessary stores, which were far inferior to those shipped at Funchal, the beef being dry and the water bad, Cook weighed anchor on December 5th. While he was leaving the bay, when the *Endeavour* was opposite the fort of Santa Cruz, two shots were fired at her. Cook sent immediately to demand the reason of this. The reply was that the commandant of the fort had not been warned by the Viceroy of the departure of the vessel. The Viceroy, when the incident was repeated to him, declared that he had written the permit for departure several days before, but had forgotten to issue it. Two days later, on December 7th, the *Endeavour* was at last enabled to leave these inhospitable waters, and to set a course for Tierra del Fuego.

Christmas was celebrated on board by abundant and repeated libations. The greater part of the crew participated in these rejoicings for the Nativity, experiencing an elation to which rum was no stranger, and Mr. Banks wondered, at the sight of these unortho-

dox consequences of the divine anniversary, what would have happened had a storm ensued on this December 25th.

On January 14th the *Endeavour* entered Lemaire Strait, which separates Tierra del Fuego from Staten Island. Cook preferred to use this passage, and subsequently to double Cape Horn, rather than to venture upon the Straits of Magellan, which Bougainville and Captain Wallis had taken three months to traverse. His seamanship was justified, for it took him no more than thirty-three days to sail round Tierra del Fuego. He determined the latitude and longitude of the places which he passed with the most rigorous accuracy, the charts having been till then extremely vague upon these points.

As soon as the *Endeavour* had entered Lemaire Strait, she met with a terribly heavy sea. Cook explored the Strait for some harbour where he could procure wood and water, and, Banks and Solander being anxious to land, he sent them and their people ashore in a boat. They stayed there four hours and came back with a plentiful harvest of plants and flowers. With an English sailor's peculiar humour, Cook recorded in his journal: "They came back, bringing with them several plants and flowers, of which most are unknown in Europe. Their whole value lies in this fact."

On the next day, January 15th, the anchor was let go in Success Bay, situated about the middle of Lemaire Strait on the coast of Tierra del Fuego.

Cook, Banks, Solander and several others landed and began a conversation by means of signs with a few natives who had appeared, to whom they offered, as tokens of friendship, ribbons and glass beads. These presents having gained the confidence of the black men, three of them went on board the ship, where they ate a little beef and bread, but spat out in disgust the wine and brandy which they were offered. They regarded everything with bored and indifferent eyes.

On January 16th, Banks and Solander, accompanied by Green the astronomer, Monkhouse the surgeon, Buchan the draughtsman, two sailors and Banks' two black servants, left early in the morning to study the flora of the country, and to climb a mountain which they could see a short distance away. In the course of their expedition they were overtaken by intense cold, surprising for the time of year, which corresponds, in these parts, to the European summer. Buchan was seized with an epileptic fit, and the party was obliged to halt, since it was impossible for the unhappy man to drag himself any further. A fire was lighted, and the more exhausted members were left with the sick man, who shortly recovered. The scientists and the surgeon continued on their way. Snow began to fall and night came on. It was impossible to return on board to sleep. The cold became keener and keener. Irresistible numbness overtook each of them. Dr. Solander warned his companions: "Anyone who sits down," he told them, "will go to sleep, and those who do so will never wake up."

He himself was unable to fight against the desire for sleep. He stretched himself on the ground and fell asleep for several minutes. When awakened by his friend Banks, he had almost lost the use of his limbs and his muscles were so contracted that his shoes fell off his feet. At last they were able to resume their march. The two black servants who had lagged behind, and who had drunk freely of the rum which had been put in their charge, also fell into a profound sleep. It was impossible to rouse them, and there was nothing for it but to leave them to die in the snow.

The next morning the sky cleared, and after an eight hours march the members of the unlucky expedition arrived at the shore. The naturalists, in spite of everything, had been able to make some interesting observations and to collect a large number of flowers. Banks also brought back some celery and cress, antiscorbutic plants which were added to the dietary on board.

The *Endeavour* remained at anchor in Success Bay until January 22nd. During this time Banks and Solander continued to satisfy their scientific curiosity. They met two natives, who led them to a small village set on a barren hill. The inhabitants of this village formed a little tribe of people of both sexes and all ages. They were of the colour of "iron rust mixed with oil." The men, though tall, were heavy and ill-made. The height of the women did not exceed five feet, and their faces were painted with red and black horizontal stripes. The only garment of both

men and women was a skin of guanaco or seal thrown over the shoulders, and in the same condition as when the beast had been skinned. Their huts, built of grass and branches, were a sorry sight, and were hardly capable of sheltering their inmates from the inclemency of the weather. A little grass scattered on the floor served as seats and beds. The sole food of the Fuegans seemed to be shell-fish. The only things about them which showed signs of industry were weapons, which consisted of fairly well-made bows and arrows of polished wood, with flint heads, barbed, carved and fitted with great skill.

On January 27th the *Endeavour* doubled Cape Horn and entered the Pacific, steering at first towards the south. During the following month's sailing, Cook, observing the complete absence of currents, arrived at the conclusion that, because currents are always found in the vicinity of a coast-line, the great "Austral Continent" which was imagined to exist round the Pole, being supposed to maintain the balance of the earth, was merely a myth. Cook's deduction was correct, and he was to confirm its accuracy in the course of his second voyage.

Having set sail towards the north-west, Cook came across several islands which had nearly all been discovered two years previously by Bougainville. To these islands, covered with luxuriant vegetation, Cook gave the names of Lagoon, Thrum Cap, Bow, the two groups Bird and Chain.

Nothing out of the way took place during these

long weeks of ocean sailing. Banks killed several albatrosses, for swarms of these birds flew round the ship. He also found floating on the surface of the water the body of a queer fish which had been torn by the birds, and which he classified as a cuttle-fish. Of this fish was made a soup which Banks declared to be "one of the best which he had ever tasted in his life."

On March 26th a young marine who had, by way of a joke, purloined a seal-skin from one of the servants on board, and whose comrades had reviled him bitterly for a theft which brought dishonour on the whole crew, could no longer bear their insults and threw himself into the sea.

Land was sighted on April 10th. It was Tahiti, the island which Captain Wallis had called George III Island, and which had been mentioned to the Royal Society as being favourable for their intended astronomical observations. Three days later, on the 13th, the *Endeavour* anchored in Matavai Bay. The first objective of the voyage had been reached.

CHAPTER VI

TAHITI

THE *Endeavour* was soon surrounded by the canoes of the natives, who had already seen two similar vessels, Captain Wallis' *Dolphin* and Bougainville's *La Boudeuse*. The Tahitians were friendly. They brought coconuts, bread-fruit, the cooked white flesh of which has the consistency of bread, and small fish. They received a few glass beads in exchange.

They even offered a pig which they wanted to exchange for an axe. In order not to create a precedent which might prejudice future transactions, this exchange was not accepted.

As the expedition was to remain on the island for some time, it was essential that its relations with the inhabitants should be friendly, and that the system of barter should be regularised. With a complete understanding of the situation, Cook laid down the following rules for the party :

1. Every legitimate means was to be taken to maintain friendly relations with the natives, and they were to be treated with every possible kindness.

2. One or two persons were to be named to purchase provisions, fruit, etc., from the Indians.

With the exception of these, no officer, seaman or other person belonging to the ship was to undertake any sort of bargain without special permission.

3. All those employed on shore, whatever their duties, were to obey strictly the orders they might receive. If they were to lose by neglect, or by their being stolen, any weapons or tools, the value of such would be deducted from their pay, according to naval regulations, and the offender would be punished, according to the merits of the case.

4. The same penalty would be inflicted upon any one who should be convicted of having taken from the ship any stores whatever for purposes of barter.

5. No iron of any kind, hardware, clothing or other necessaries were to be exchanged except for provisions.

Cook, who was a disciplinarian, acted always with the greatest severity towards those who disobeyed his orders.

When the captain of the *Endeavour* landed for the first time, in company with Banks, Solander and a party of armed men, several hundred Tahitians made the strangers understand, by their demeanour, that they were welcome. They held in their hands green branches, the universal symbol of peace. The Englishmen did the same, and, thus adorned with

pacific verdure, proceeded, accompanied by the natives, to the place where Captain Wallis' *Dolphin* had taken in water. Several members of the crew of the *Endeavour*, among whom was the second lieutenant, Gore, had participated in Wallis' expedition, and had recognised an old native, called Owah, who had rendered great services to Wallis. Having arrived at their destination, the natives halted and proceeded to lay the ground bare by tearing up the herbage; then the chief men among them threw down the green branches which they carried, inviting the strangers by signs to follow their example. In order to endow the ceremony with greater solemnity, Cook drew up in line his armed men, and ordered them to place their boughs on those of the Indians. Then he and the two naturalists did the same. Peace was ratified.

On the next day several canoes approached the *Endeavour*, and two Indians of high rank came on board. One of them made Banks understand that he took him as his friend, the other selected Cook. To ratify this pact of friendship they stripped off the greater part of their clothes and dressed their new friends in them, in return for which they were each given an axe and some beads.

After this ceremony Cook, the naturalists, the officers and the two Indians went ashore, and were taken to a long hut belonging to the chief, Tootahah. He, having had mats laid out, made his guests sit down, and offered Cook and Banks a cock and a hen,

together with a piece of scented cloth. Banks presented the generous native with a silk cravat ornamented with lace and a pocket handkerchief. Tootahah adorned himself with these elegant objects with an expression of great delight.

After this visit several pretty and smiling women took the strangers into several large huts which, in common with most of the dwellings of this part, were built under trees, and consisted merely of a few posts supporting the roof. The sociable Tahitian ladies seemed delighted with the newcomers, to whom they showed every politeness.

One delightful thing about them was that they wore their hair short, cut round the ears. As though to maintain the hirsute balance of the country, the men allowed theirs to grow.

The Englishmen met later a large number of islanders who owned allegiance to another chief, called Toubourai Tamaide. The ceremony of the green branches was re-enacted, and, the peace treaty having been ratified, the Indian made the strangers understand that he wished to offer them a meal. The latter accepted, and a picturesque banquet took place, during which fish, bread-fruit, coconuts and the fruit of the plane tree were served in the Tahitian fashion. During this feast Dr. Solander suddenly discovered that a shagreen case containing a small pair of glasses had been taken from him. At the same moment Monkhouse, the ship's surgeon, discovered the loss of his precious snuff-box. Both complained to the chief

of these strange thefts. The latter offered some cloth in exchange, but Banks, who had already secured considerable influence over the natives, refused, and insisted that the stolen objects should be returned. Toubourai Tamaide went away in haste, to return a few minutes later with a triumphant expression on his face and the snuff-box and the shagreen case in his hand. But, alas, the latter was empty. A look of consternation appeared on the face of the chief, who went out, accompanied by Banks, Solander and Monkhouse. He led them into a hut, where they were received by a woman, to whom the Indian gave a piece of cloth and the English a few beads. The woman departed, to return later with the glasses. Toubourai Tamaide gave the beads back to Banks, and forced Solander to accept the cloth as reparation for the wrong which had been done him. This was the Tahitians' first theft. It was not to be the last.

One of the first matters which Cook took in hand was to choose a spot, protected by the guns of the *Endeavour*, where he could establish a sort of fort in which the instruments necessary for the astronomical observations could be kept in safety. He soon found a suitable place, far enough from the native huts, and the construction of the fort began. Tents were pitched, and were immediately guarded by thirteen marines under an officer. However, one of the natives, displaying an amazing cunning, stole the musket of one of the sentries. The officer gave the

word to fire, and his men fired into the crowd without hitting anybody. Seeing that the robber did not fall, the officer pursued him and laid him out dead. Cook severely reprimanded him for the lack of humanity of which he had been guilty, and did his utmost to dissipate the cloud which this incident had raised between the English and the natives. He succeeded, as it happened, without much difficulty.

Four days after the arrival of the *Endeavour*, the painter Buchan, who had had an epileptic fit at Tierra del Fuego, had a second seizure, which proved fatal. His body was committed to the sea. It was not thought wise to bury him on shore, for fear lest the funeral rites should wound the superstitions of the natives. The latter had carried into the woods the corpse of the robber who had been killed by the marines. They had wrapped it in a piece of cloth and placed it on a wooden frame supported on posts and covered with a roof. Near him were placed his weapons, fresh water, and some fruit. Thus the Tahitians disposed of their dead.

Relations between the English and the natives remained cordial, in spite of the numerous thefts which the latter carried out with surprising skill. Cook, however, insisted that scrupulous honesty should be observed by his men, and did not hesitate to enforce this by severe examples. One day the ship's butcher had tried to trade with one of Toubourai Tamaide's women. He offered her a nail, demanding in exchange a small stone hatchet. Upon her refusal,

he threatened to cut her throat with his knife. Cook waited until Toubourai Tamaide, his women and several other Indians were on board before punishing the guilty man, who was stripped, tied to the mast and soundly flogged. At the first blow the natives implored Cook to pardon him, and when he refused, they burst into tears.

Usually barter took place without any trouble. Bread-fruit, coconuts, fowls and pigs were exchanged for cloth, beads, nails and above all axes, for which the Tahitians showed a special predilection. Often the chiefs presented food. One day one of them offered Cook an edible dog. After some hesitation the beast was roasted and every one partook of it. Cook compared the flesh to that of English lamb.

The English were invited to several native entertainments. Tootahah got up a concert for them, at which four musicians played upon two-holed flutes, into which they blew, not with their mouths, but with their nostrils. Four singers joined their voices to the sound of these instruments, and Cook, who apparently was not a music lover, recorded in his Journal that he was delighted—when the concert came to an end.

Tootahah also invited the strangers to a mimic battle, varied by dances and choruses. The islanders did not, in these exercises, reveal themselves as remarkable athletes, but in other circumstances they proved that they were marvellous swimmers.

Several Tahitians of note went on board the

Endeavour, where a woman of great distinction, Obeara, who was queen of the island at the time of Captain Wallis' visit, was also entertained. In the course of these visits peaceful rituals took place, and the usual marks of friendship were exchanged.

Unhappily, thefts frequently marred the serenity of Cook's relations with the natives. When the fort was finished, all the astronomical instruments, among them the great quadrant, an instrument of considerable weight used in observing the altitude and angular distance of the stars, were brought ashore. Although the quadrant had been deposited in a tent, before which a sentry had been stationed all night, it was found to have vanished by the following morning. This loss was overwhelming, for no astronomical observation was possible without the instrument. Green and Banks, accompanied by Toubourai Tamaide, left on an expedition with the object of recovering it. After a long journey, they met a native holding part of the quadrant in his hand. Banks, presenting his pistol, rounded up the Indians who had come to the spot, and, drawing a circle on the ground, he made signs to them to deposit within the circle the rest of the instrument which they had stolen. They obeyed, and, piece by piece, the quadrant was reconstructed.

On another occasion Cook, Banks, Solander and three other Englishmen had gone to visit Tootahah to get from him some pigs which he had promised them, and could not regain the fort that same evening. Banks slept in Obeara's canoe; Cook and the rest

passed the night in some native huts. When he woke up, Banks discovered that his coat, waistcoat, pistol and powder-flask had been spirited away. His breeches alone remained to him. Dressed in this article of clothing alone, he went on shore, where he met, walking about with bare legs, Cook, who informed him that his stockings had been stolen, although he had taken the precaution of putting them under his head while he slept. The rest of the party had lost their outer clothes. In spite of a vigorous search the clothes were never found, and Banks was compelled to enter the fort in a Tahitian dress.

In order to put an end to these continued thefts, Cook seized about twenty canoes laden with fish, and warned the natives that he would not give them up until all the articles which had disappeared since the arrival of the *Endeavour* had been returned. Very few were surrendered, and as the fish was beginning to spoil, Cook allowed the islanders to come and fetch it. These, fresh from their lesson in the laws pertaining to other people's property, removed a quantity of fish which did not belong to them. At last, to avoid trouble, Cook in despair gave up the canoes.

The observation of the transit of Venus duly took place on June 3rd (9 a.m.—3 p.m.), and was highly successful.

Before leaving Tahiti, Cook was anxious to circumnavigate the island, and, accompanied by Banks, he set out in a boat on this dangerous expedition, in

which they frequently ran the risk of damaging their frail craft on the rocks. The two travellers explored several unknown districts, made the acquaintance of the chiefs who ruled them, and achieved several interesting discoveries.

But the time of their departure was approaching. Preparations for this were proceeding normally, when a serious incident occurred which might have ended for good and all the friendly relations between the English and the islanders. On the night of July 8th–9th, two young marines ran away from the fort. Cook, having sought among the natives for the reason of this desertion, learned that his men, having fallen in love with two fair Tahitian damsels, had decided to marry them and to take up their residence on the island with their wives. Cook, determined to recover the men at any price, kept Toubourai Tamaide, his wife Tomio, the former queen Obeara and several other chiefs prisoners in the fort. He told his captives that they would not regain their liberty till his men had been found. An expedition was formed, and after many adventures the two young Englishmen, who had preferred the dusky island brides to the blondes of their own country, were delivered into Cook's hands.

July 13th had been fixed as the day of departure. At dawn a crowd of Tahitians boarded the *Endeavour*. One of them, Tupia, who had been Obeara's Prime Minister, and was now high priest of the island, begged Cook to take him and a young servant of thirteen with him. As Tupia had proved himself a faithful friend

to Captain Wallis and of the party belonging to the *Endeavour*, Cook agreed, all the more willingly since the former Minister knew all the surrounding islands, and would be very valuable as a pilot and interpreter among the neighbouring tribes.

At eleven o'clock in the morning the anchor was weighed, and as soon as the vessel was under sail the Tahitians bade farewell to the English. They were depressed and wept silently. For their part, the Englishmen watched, with a tightening of the heart-strings, the disappearance below the horizon of this marvellous island, a bouquet of luxuriant verdure expanding like a smile upon the blue waters of the Pacific.

CHAPTER VII

NEW ZEALAND

AFTER leaving Tahiti, where he had remained for three months, Cook spent the following month in exploring the shores and the interior of the neighbouring islands, which lay close to one another. He gave the name of the Society Islands to the group. He hoisted the English flag on the island of Ulietea, and in the name of His Britannic Majesty took formal possession of this island and of the islands of Huaheine, Otaka and Bolabola, which could be seen from where he was.

The relations of Cook with these fresh islanders were on the whole excellent, although they exhibited the same tendency to theft as had the Tahitians. Barter took place, and the *Endeavour* was plentifully supplied with native provisions.

Several Indians came on board, and the ship was honoured by a visit from the King of Huaheine and his wife. This potentate, whose name was Orea, proposed to Cook that he should, in token of friendship, exchange names with him. Cook agreed, and whenever they were together Orea was called "Cookee" and Cook "Orea."

The Englishmen admired the children of Ulietea,

" the prettiest and the best grown in the world." They saw in this island a troupe of dancers, composed of two women, six men and three drummers, who for two hours performed curious and suggestive dances, varied by a sort of " dramatic farce." Cook remarked that " neither their music nor their dancing was calculated to please a European." One of the female dancers having a pair of remarkable pearl ear-rings, Banks offered to buy them at the price of four pigs, but she would not hear of parting with them.

Opooni, the King of Bolabola, presented the English with a quantity of fruit, but the next day he sent three pretty girls on board the *Endeavour*, with instructions to demand something in return for the presents he had made. Cook and his staff paid him a visit, and Opooni, " a feeble and decrepit old man," offered them a pig.

On August 9th Cook left the Society Islands and set sail for the south. Four days later he sighted an island, which Tupia told him was called Ohetiroa (Rurutu). He sent a boat ashore, in which were Gore, Banks, and Tupia, who had been invaluable since the departure from Tahiti. The islanders immediately assumed a hostile attitude, attempting to prevent the landing, and uttering formidable war cries. A seaman fired at one of them and wounded him in the head, which did not facilitate an understanding. The boat having rowed round the island without finding a convenient bay in which the *Endeavour* could anchor, Cook thought it prudent to

abandon the project of landing on the island, the bellicose character of whose inhabitants might have resulted in bloodshed. He resumed his way southward, in order to reach, if possible, that famous continent which the charts called by the name of *Terra Australis Incognita*.

On August 26th the anniversary of the departure from England was celebrated on board by the production, from a drawer where it had been carefully preserved for this occasion, of a Cheshire cheese. At the same time a barrel of capital dark beer was tapped. Four days later a seaman died of congestion, after having consumed half a bottle of rum. For seven weeks the adventurers had no other horizon than the great stretch of sea; but at last, on October 7th, high land was sighted. They could make out a chain of lofty mountains. What land was this? Most of the officers declared that it was the great southern continent *Terra Australis Incognita*. Cook was soon to prove that the continent was made up of two islands, which he annexed for his country. For the first time New Zealand had been approached from the east. Tasman had discovered the western coast in 1642, but, in the face of the savage hostility of the natives, who had killed four of his men, he had never set foot on shore.

Cook let go his anchor on October 8th, in a bay on the north-east coast, afterwards to be known as Poverty Bay, situated at the mouth of a little river. In the evening, taking a larger boat, followed by a

smaller, he landed, accompanied by Banks, Solander and a large number of the crew. Some natives, dressed in cloth, with their hair knotted on the top of their heads, were gathered on the bank of the river opposite to that on which the Englishmen had landed. Cook, wishing to establish friendly relations with them, crossed the water in the dinghy, but they promptly ran away. So, leaving four boys in charge of the dinghy, Cook and his companions set out towards a group of huts which they could see three or four hundred paces away. They had scarcely left the shore when four men, armed with long spears, dashed out of the forest and ran towards the dinghy to capture it. The coxswain of the gig warned the boys of their danger, and fired over the heads of the Indians, who halted and looked about them. After a few minutes they resumed their attack. The sailor fired a second shot to frighten them. Far from evincing the least fear, one of the natives brandished his spear to hurl at the boat. A third shot killed him on the spot.

Such was the first meeting of the Englishmen with the natives of New Zealand. The rest of their intercourse was not to be much better. On the next day Cook filled three boats with seamen and marines, and with the three scientists, his officers and Tupia, set out towards the shore, where about fifty New Zealanders seemed to be awaiting the arrival of the strangers. After several vain attempts, Tupia made himself understood by them, by speaking to them in the

Tahitian language. About twenty of them crossed the river. The Englishmen offered them some necklaces and ironware, which they accepted with indifference. What they really wanted was to exchange their weapons for those of the newcomers. One of the Maoris seized Green's hunting knife and brandished it triumphantly over his head. Banks fired a shot-gun at him, but, although well peppered with shot, he continued to defy the Englishman, brandishing his weapon. A bullet fired by Monkhouse laid him low.

On the following day Cook, seeing that it was impossible to deal with these natives, and that, besides, the water in the river was brackish, resolved to seek another part of the bay where drinking water was to be found and less aggressive natives were to be met with. The sea was too rough for the boats to land, but Cook saw two canoes in the offing. He immediately decided to prevent their landing, and to capture some New Zealanders, in order to bring them to a more sociable frame of mind and encourage them to barter. The latter, however, took to flight on seeing the boats. In order to stop them, Cook fired over their heads, but instead of continuing to retire, the valorous Maoris determined on battle, and prepared to attack the boats with stones, oars and spears. Cook then fired ball into them. Four were killed, and the captain of the *Endeavour*, a hard but deeply humane man, reproached himself later with having shed the blood of these men, " who did not deserve

death." Banks highly disapproved of this useless massacre.

Cook decided to explore the coast of this inhospitable country, and steered northwards, making frequent stops and finding nearly everywhere the same hostile temper on the part of the inhabitants, whose tendency to theft was not inferior to that of the Tahitians. One day Cook, having noticed a Maori wearing a black skin which looked like that of a bear, and wishing to find out what animal it came from, offered to exchange it for a piece of red cloth. The Maori accepted the offer with delight. He immediately took off the skin and laid it in his canoe, not wishing to part with it till he had received the cloth. Once he had got hold of this, he kept the skin and put it and the cloth into a basket. Then, with serene calm, he paddled away from the ship. On the same day a party of natives captured Tayeto, Tupia's little servant, who happened to be in a boat, and dragged him into one of their canoes. Cook had fire opened immediately, and in the confusion which ensued the child made his escape and swam back to the *Endeavour*. Cook gave the place where this happened the name of Cape Kidnapper. On another occasion a native who had come on board to trade saw several pieces of cloth drying at the ship's side. As quietly as though he were performing some household duty he took them down, tied them in a bundle, and made off.

Similar incidents were of frequent occurrence, and Cook had the greatest difficulty in restraining the

murderous instinct of his men, who, as he says in his Journal, "showed the same eagerness to massacre these islanders as a huntsman to kill game." As at Tahiti, he exacted from them the strictest honesty in their dealings with the New Zealanders. One day, some seamen having broken down the fence of a native plantation and taken some potatoes, he ordered twelve lashes to each of the culprits, and when one of them contended obstinately that "it was no crime for an Englishman to rob a native plantation, while it was a crime for an Indian to steal a nail from an Englishman," Cook had him put in the cells, whence he emerged only to receive twelve more lashes.

The *Endeavour* frequently met native canoes manned by warlike New Zealanders, singing their war-songs with many gesticulations and waving their *patu-patus*, a sort of double-bladed axe made of greenstone. It was necessary on these occasions to fire the guns to frighten them and put them to flight. One day when this was beginning, Tupia mounted on the poop to address the islanders, and told them that the strangers had weapons which they would use if attacked. By way of reply, the Maoris brandished their axes and cried, "Come ashore, and we will kill you all." "Very well," replied Tupia, "but why worry us when we are on the sea? Since we have no desire to fight, we shall not accept your challenge to land, and you have no reason to quarrel with us, for the sea no more belongs to you than it does to the ship." This wise remark of Tupia's merely had the effect of

increasing the menaces of the natives. A shot which penetrated one of their canoes was the decisive argument which made them turn tail immediately.

In some places, however, Cook was warmly welcomed, and was able to visit the *hippas*, or fortified villages, built on hills and fortified with ditches and palisades. Cook considered some of these to be impregnable.

In the districts where the natives showed themselves more sociable the English bought fish, which, with dog, seemed to be the only food of the island. The fish was excellent, however, and the travellers of the *Endeavour* declared that they had never eaten better mackerel than that found in New Zealand waters. The English sailors sometimes made miraculous hauls of fish. One day they caught 300 pounds of bream, and at another time, at the mouth of a stream to which Cook gave the name of Oyster River, they found a great number of perfect oysters, " as good as Colchester natives," of which they ate enormously. Tasty lobsters were a welcome addition to the menu, which Banks supplemented sometimes with cormorants which he shot.

As for the islanders, they graced their table with human flesh, when they could get it. One of them said to Tupia, " We only eat the bodies of enemies killed in battle." This native offered Banks the bone of a human arm from which he had eaten the flesh,

and made him understand, by licking the bone, that it had made him an excellent meal.

In the course of their numerous visits to the shore the travellers were able to make interesting observations of the inhabitants. The extraordinary healthiness of the people and the great age which they seemed to attain had struck Cook, who never remarked a single case of illness among them. Their wounds healed with amazing rapidity. He found them infinitely more prudish than the Tahitians, among whom the conception of decency seemed totally lacking. The bodies of both sexes were covered with black spots, a sort of horrible tattooing. The men wore their beards short, and their hair, knotted on the top of their heads, formed a tuft in which they placed birds' feathers. The women painted their faces with red ochre and oil, and they transferred some of their complexions to those who wished to enjoy the sweetness of their kisses. " The noses of several of our people," wrote Cook in his Journal, " proved beyond doubt that they had no objection to this familiarity." And he added: " They are as coquettish as our most fashionable European ladies, and the young girls are as playful as unbroken colts." As at Tahiti, most of them wore their hair short.

In the course of a visit to a native village the English saw, with the greatest surprise, a cross exactly similar to the emblem of Christianity. It was decorated with feathers, and in reply to questions on the subject the natives replied that it was " a monument

erected to a man who was dead." This was all that the travellers were able to make out.

Cook spent thirty-four days mapping the northern part of New Zealand, into which he was the first European to penetrate. He made a detailed examination of the coast, and compiled a chart of remarkable accuracy, leaving such native names as he had been able to learn, and christening bays, capes, islands and rivers according to the events appropriate to them, as Poverty Bay, Abundance Bay, Mercury Bay (because he there observed the transit of the planet), Oyster River, the Thames (because the width of the river resembled that of the Thames at Greenwich). Sometimes he used the names of his friends or his superiors, as Cape Palliser, Cape Colvile, Hawke's Bay, Banks' Peninsula.

Cook, after this thirty-four-days' sail, entered the great strait known as Queen Charlotte Sound. Having landed, he climbed a hill, and saw in front of him, across the Sound, another land. The sea stretched west and east. The continent, then, was formed of two great islands. Cook had soon proved it. At once he unfurled the British flag, and, with the customary ceremony, which comprised a triple salvo and the drinking of the King's health in a bottle of wine, he formally took possession of the new territory in the name of His Majesty, King George III.

The *Endeavour* regained the eastern coast of New

Zealand by the strait known as Cook Strait, coasted for four months along the southern island, and having made a complete circle, returned to Queen Charlotte Sound.

The South Island, called by the natives Touy-Poenammou, being mountainous and barren, seemed hardly inhabited. The North Island, Eaheino Mauwe, was covered with wooded mountains and hills, and every valley was watered by a stream. The soil was fertile. The naturalists, Banks and Solander, declared that every European grain, plant or fruit would grow there and become successfully acclimatised. Cook wrote in his Journal, "If Europeans settle in this country, it will cost them very little care and labour to grow everything they require in abundance." His suggestion was not long in being acted upon by his countrymen.

The *Endeavour* had been six months in New Zealand waters. If numerous discoveries had been made, dangers had not been lacking either. Several times the ship had come near foundering on the reefs, and, further, the encounters with the natives were almost always far from pleasant. A great number of the crew began to sigh for the roast beef of old England. Cook thought about his return. Two routes presented themselves to him: the eastward route, which he had followed on his way out, by Cape Horn, and the westward route, by the East Indies. As the latter seemed to him more propitious for the discoveries of which his explorer's heart was avid, he decided to take it, and

on March 31st, at dawn, the *Endeavour* steered for the enormous country then known as New Holland. Cook had just given England an archipelago and two great islands. He was now about to give her a territory the size of a continent.

CHAPTER VIII

AUSTRALIA

AFTER an uneventful voyage, Cook arrived off the south-east coast of New Holland, which was to become New South Wales, on April 19th, and anchored in a large bay, which he called Botany Bay, on account of the great number of plants which Banks and Solander found on its shores. His first welcome by the natives was as spontaneously hostile as had been that of the New Zealanders. Having lowered the boats and embarked in them with his friends, Tupia, and a strong guard of marines and armed men, Cook landed at a spot where several Indians had been seen. The latter ran away, except two, who, armed with spears about ten feet long, greeted the Englishmen in a rough and dissonant language of which poor Tupia could make nothing. Although they were two to forty, the natives seemed determined to prevent the strangers from penetrating their country. Cook ordered his men to stop rowing and threw the two Indians a few nails and necklace beads, which seemed to please them. Then, by signs, he tried to make them understand that he wanted water, and that he had no intention of harming them. The savages made signs which he took to be an

invitation to land, but when the boat advanced they showed themselves as threatening as before. Cook ordered a shot to be fired between them, which only frightened them for a moment, after which they began to hurl stones. This time a shot-gun charge wounded the elder of the natives in the leg. He disappeared, to return with a shield and a quantity of spears, which he and his companion proceeded to throw at the strangers, fortunately without wounding them. A third shot having put these plucky Indians to flight, the Englishmen landed. They were the first of their race to set foot on Australian soil, upon which Cook immediately unfurled the British flag. Part of the guard advanced towards some rude tents, which resembled those of the natives of Tierra del Fuego. Only a few terrified children remained there. The Englishmen left in each hut which they visited bracelets, necklaces and cloth, hoping that these presents would earn them the friendship of the inhabitants. When they returned on the following day they found that their gifts had been scorned, and they did not see a single native. Those whom they saw during the following days approached to within a certain distance, then, uttering strange cries, fled into the woods. A few hurled their spears, but without effect.

During the few days that the *Endeavour* remained at anchor in Botany Bay Cook and the naturalists explored the interior. They traversed pleasant country, with varied woodland and prairie, of which

the soil, profuse in plants, was sometimes rich and sometimes sandy. Wonderful birds, parrakeets of startling colours, chattered in the great trees. Enormous oysters, mussels and shells were found in abundance on the banks of sand and mud which were uncovered at low water.

At sunrise on May 6th the *Endeavour* left Botany Bay and set sail to the northward along the coast. The travellers saw from the ship several natives, entirely naked, like all those whom they had seen up till then, who took not the slightest notice of the vessel. On May 22nd Cook anchored in a pretty and beautifully sheltered bay. He discovered upon landing a channel which led into a great lake, round which grew reeking mangroves, the first of this species which the travellers had seen on their voyage. On the rocky shores and the dunes which stretched along them were standing some big birds, which Banks and Solander thought were pelicans. It was impossible to get within range of them, but they were able to kill a fat bustard, weighing seventeen and a half pounds. This bird, which was very good eating, furnished the Englishmen with an excellent meal, in honour of which the bay was called Bustard Bay. On the mud banks lay a quantity of all kinds of oysters, among which were found a number of pearl oysters.

Four days after his arrival at Bustard Bay Cook weighed anchor and proceeded, making minute observations of the coast and charting it. He landed

on May 29th and 30th, in order to find drinking water. Failing in this, he gave the name of Thirsty Sound to the gulf in which the vessel lay. In this region the travellers found a new species of black ant, and also myriads of butterflies, with which the air was so full that "... millions were to be seen in every direction at the same time that every branch and twig was covered with others that were not upon the wing."

Until June 10th the *Endeavour* sailed uneventfully along the coast and among an archipelago of little islands, when, after having passed Trinity Bay, a terrible accident took place, which might well have proved fatal to the ship and the travellers. The wind was fair and the moon shining. At ten o'clock in the evening the soundings had shown twenty-one fathoms, and as this depth continued, the officers left the deck and went quietly to bed. A little before eleven, the water shoaled suddenly from twenty to seventeen fathoms, and before the lead could be heaved again a sinister rending was heard. The vessel had touched a reef. In a moment the crew were on deck, having realised the horror of the situation. Cook, with his perfect control of men, quelled the panic and with his usual energy and coolness took measures to deal with the catastrophe which he considered inevitable.

When the depth of the water round the ship was taken, it was found that she had struck below water on a coral reef, and that she was on the summit of

this rock, which showed a greatest depth of four fathoms. By the light of the moon they saw the planks of the sheathing as well as those of the keel floating broken by the vessel's side. " . . . Every moment was making way for the sea to rush in which was to swallow us up," wrote Hawkesworth. " We had now no chance but to lighten her, and we had lost the opportunity of doing that to the greatest advantage, for unhappily we went onshore just at high water, and by this time it had considerably fallen, so that after she should be lightened so as to draw as much less water, as the water had sunk, we should be but in the same situation as at first, and the only alleviation of this circumstance was, that as the tide ebbed, the ship settled to the rocks and was not beaten against them with so much violence. We had indeed some hope from the next tide, but it was doubtful whether she would hold together so long, especially as the rock kept grating her bottom under the starboard bow with such force as to be heard in the fore store-room."

There was not a moment to be lost. The most pressing need was to pump out the water, which was pouring into the hold through the hole made by the rock, and to lighten the ship as much as possible. The pumps were set to work at once, and the six carronades on deck, the iron and stone ballast, casks, staves, hoops, oil-jars, old provisions, were all flung into the sea. Every man of the complement helped in the salvage work with a good will, without

grumbling and "without giving expression to a single oath," as Cook noted in his Journal, surprised at this unusual silence in his men. The dawn rose on June 11th, and land became visible eight leagues away. But at high water that morning, which occurred at eleven o'clock, the vessel had only reduced her draught by a foot and a half. It was necessary to lighten her still further, and everything not absolutely necessary was jettisoned. The ship was got off.

At the next tide the influx of water increased, in spite of the employment of extra pumps. The crew, worn out and hopeless, began to get discouraged. They could no longer work the pumps for more than five minutes at a time, and then collapsed on the deck, gloomy and exhausted. However, it was found that there was not as much water in the hold as had first been thought, and hope returned to these men, who had already given themselves up for lost. One of the officers at the pumps suggested stopping the leak with a sail, instead of with the tow and rags previously employed. This scheme succeeded wonderfully. The leak was almost entirely sealed, and the vessel's course directed towards the land, where Cook sought and soon found a harbour. This harbour, which lay a good way up a tortuous channel, at the head of which flowed a stream of fresh water, was named by Cook Endeavour River.

The spot was very suitable for the urgent repairs necessitated by the accident, from which Cook and his companions had miraculously escaped safe and

sound. When the vessel was put on shore, it was found that the biggest hole was partly plugged by a piece of rock which had broken off in the hull. Without this providential help the ship must have sunk in a few seconds.

A week later the Englishmen had disembarked on the shore of the River Endeavour and had pitched two tents. The first was intended to house the provisions and other stores taken from the ship, and the second to shelter the men sick of scurvy, which had made its appearance. The astronomer Green and Tupia were seriously ill with it. The latter recovered quickly enough, but the state of the former's health gave no sign of improvement.

While the carpenters and smiths repaired the damage to the ship and put her once more into sailing trim, Cook surveyed the coast, and the indefatigable Banks and several others explored the interior. It was also necessary to revictual, and in this respect the menus were worthy of the best tables in England. They killed pigeons for the sick men, and the crew tasted the delicious flesh of the kangaroo. Fish was plentiful, also shell-fish, of which some were so large that the contents of one were more than sufficient for two men. But the most delicious food were the turtles, which were found in great numbers on the sandbanks. Cabbages formed the principal vegetable, while plum fruit and a kind of plum peculiar to the country provided dessert.

New and strange animals sometimes appeared to the hunters. One day, a scared sailor came and told Cook that he had seen the devil. "He was, says John, as large as a one gallon keg and very like it; he had horns and wings, yet he crept so slowly through the grass, that if I had not been afeard I might have touched him." Banks discovered later that the creature which had opened the portals of hell to the unfortunate sailor was merely an enormous bat.

The country in the neighbourhood of the Endeavour River was full of sandy mountains, and seemed fairly barren. A few abandoned huts stood in the woods. At last some natives appeared. No notice was taken of them, so they returned a little later with a fair number of their friends. They gradually approached, and, Cook having invited them on board, they unhesitatingly accepted the invitation. Seeing some turtles on the poop, they took two of them and dragged them to the side of the ship where their canoe lay. The crew took them back by force, not without difficulty, and at last, after several vain attempts to appropriate this precious booty, the natives leapt into their canoe and rowed to shore. As soon as they had landed they took up their weapons and, picking up brands from a brazier, set light with extraordinary promptitude to the grass in front of them. This grass, five or six feet high and dry as stubble, caught fire at once. The fire made rapid progress towards one of the tents, which was saved. Everything combustible in the workshop which had

been set up on the beach was destroyed. At last the fire was got under in the vicinity of the little camp, but it spread far away into the mountains. Happily, the powder kegs which had been landed during the repair of the ship had been taken back on board the day before.

The examination of the coast which Cook had made had been far from satisfactory. To the north, in the direction which he wished to sail, there were nothing but interminable sandbanks and countless reefs, and when the *Endeavour* left the river on August 4th, she set out into a sea sown with dangers of every kind. Cook thought for a moment of retracing his steps and coming home by the southward route, but, as he was anxious to ascertain whether New Holland was joined to New Guinea (he did not then know that this point had been settled by the Spaniard, Vaez de Torres, in 1606), he decided to keep on towards the north, in spite of every obstacle.

Amid unheard-of difficulties, and with the ship's boats ahead, sounding continually, the *Endeavour* sailed for several days close to the shore, but, as dangers became more numerous and channels less frequent, Cook conceived the idea of heaving west and resuming his northward course when the water became deeper.

The *Endeavour* thus reached the open sea. Everyone breathed more freely, relieved of the constant anxiety lest the ship should strike the rocks, when a terrible incident proved to the travellers how illusory was the safety which they thought to have attained.

During the night of August 15th–16th, about four in the morning, they heard clearly the sound of breakers, and at dawn they saw a mile away surf rising to a great height. There was too much depth of water to anchor, and not a breath of wind to work the ship. The sea carried the vessel irresistibly towards the breakers. The boats were the only resource. Unfortunately the pinnace was under repair. Cook lowered the two boats and sent them ahead to tow the vessel until she was able, after six hours, to weather the northern extremity. One wave's length alone separated the ship from disaster, for the current had carried the *Endeavour* to within a hundred yards of the rocks. All at once, as though miraculously, a light breeze sprang up, enough to allow the ship to lay off a little and increase her distance from the rocks. But the breeze died, and once more the *Endeavour* was swept towards the reef. At last the breeze freshened again, and lasted for ten minutes, during which Cook discovered an opening in the rocks. He sent one of the mates to examine it, who came back and reported that the channel was no wider than the length of the vessel, but that the sea was smooth. This channel seemed the only hope. Cook tried unsuccessfully to negotiate it, the back-wash preventing him. Fortunately the current which had impeded the ship's progress had driven her a quarter of a mile from the reef. Towed by the boats the *Endeavour* made about two miles. However, the indraught continued, and Cook feared that it would

again carry him on to the rocks, when he made out another opening. He sent his first lieutenant, Hicks, to examine it. Hicks reported that although the channel was dangerous, it was feasible. Cook saw no help for his dangerous position but to try this new passage. The boats and the current drew the ship towards the opening, through which she passed, " with alarming speed."

Once more Cook and his companions enjoyed a miraculous escape from death.

Having escaped from these dangers, Cook re-approached the coast, and after ten days of perilous navigation, which were, however, uneventful, Cook had the satisfaction of passing through Torres Strait between Cape York and New Guinea. Before leaving the territory of New Holland, Cook, on August 21st, hoisted the British flag, and, convinced that before him no European had explored the eastern coast of this vast country, took formal possession of it in the name of His Majesty King George III. He gave this country the name of New Wales. Three volleys of musketry were fired, and replied to by three salvoes from the guns of the *Endeavour*.

A new jewel had been added to the crown of England.

CHAPTER IX

THE RETURN TO ENGLAND

At dawn on September 3rd Cook and his companions sighted the coast of New Guinea, and before noon a small party of the travellers landed. They saw human footprints on the sands, and suddenly three natives, stark naked, dashed, with savage cries, out of a neighbouring wood. They ran towards the strangers, and one of them, coming nearer than the rest, flung a kind of stick, which fell beside them, and produced, without any noise, a flash resembling that of gunpowder. The two others flung their spears at the Englishmen, who replied by firing shot, then bullets. But, as Cook had no intention of exploring this country and unfurling the British flag, he returned to the boat with the rest of the party. On the way back to the *Endeavour* they passed about sixty Indians gathered on the beach, who threw their silent fires, the mysterious composition of which Cook never discovered.

Without staying further on the New Guinea coast, the *Endeavour* sailed westward. Cook's aim was to reach the island of Java as soon as possible, and to call at Batavia, the capital of the Dutch possessions in the East Indies.

The ship was leaking in several places, and, as a result of her long and dangerous circuit, was becoming unfit to continue her voyage in safety. It was necessary that she should be repaired in a port equipped with the necessary appliances, and Batavia was the only place where this could be done. Further, disease and homesickness had laid hold of the crew and the travellers. An early return was imperative. Cook did not wish to land on the island of Timor, but, being in want of water and provisions, he anchored off the coast of a smiling and verdant little island, called Savu, where the Dutch had just established a trading-station.

The palms, coconuts, tamarinds, lemons and oranges which spread their branches under a sky of wonderful softness, the sheep pasturing on the lovely hills, the friendly and courteous islanders, sent, between them, a ray of sunshine into the hearts of the Englishmen, who for weeks and weeks had been accustomed to nothing but the dangers of the sea and the hostility of the Indians.

Cook procured plenty of provisions of Savu, in spite of the selfish restrictions of the Dutch manager of the trading port, who rejoiced in the name of Lange, and who might have learnt from the natives a lesson in sincerity and honesty.

After a short stay in this enchanted isle, where Mr. Lange's spite would not allow the English to remain longer than was absolutely necessary for them to revictual, Cook set sail, and on October 1st arrived

in sight of the island of Java, where two Dutch vessels anchored off Anger Point informed him that Captain Carteret's *Swallow* had been at Batavia two years earlier.

On October 10th the *Endeavour* entered Batavia roadstead, and two days later, having obtained the necessary permission, Cook and his companions landed, and the repairs to the ship were taken in hand.

Batavia, a cosmopolitan port built on a low and marshy plain, possessed fine and spacious streets and canals edged with trees, which gave it a very pleasant appearance. Unfortunately the canals exhaled a horrible and unhealthy stench, so that the sanitary condition of this magnificent town was deplorable. Malaria and dysentery were endemic. The pallor of the Dutch and Portuguese who formed the European population struck Cook and his companions. The habit of chewing betel, very widely spread throughout Java, contributed to the physical debility of the people. The teeming population of Malays, Chinese and negro slaves which thronged the streets of Batavia, filled with delight Tupia, to whom it was extraordinary, and even in his dying state he felt a new life coursing through his veins, and was inspired with a desire to resume his Tahitian dress. Tayeto, his little servant, showed his admiration by dancing along the streets and running from one thing to another with cries of astonishment.

The unhealthy air of Batavia began slowly to do

its deadly work upon Cook and his companions, of whom several were already ill when they left New Guinea. Banks, who was by no means well, rented a house in the country. The rest of the sick men were housed outside the town. A tent was pitched for Tupia on a little island near by. Nevertheless, in spite of every precaution, death exacted a fatal toll from the members of the expedition. Monkhouse, the surgeon, was the first victim. Then it was the turn of Tayeto, whom Tupia survived only for a few days. The melancholy list grew with appalling rapidity. Three seamen and Green's servant succumbed to the ravages of scurvy, aggravated by local fevers. Cook himself was attacked by fever, but, in spite of the urgent representations of the doctors, refused to leave the ship. There were no more than ten men on board free from sickness, among them the sail-maker, an old man of eighty, who got drunk every day without fail.

On December 27th the *Endeavour*, admirably repaired, left Batavia harbour, where seven of her passengers and crew slept their eternal sleep.

Cook called at Prince's Island on January 5th to secure provisions, and after a stay of ten days set sail for the Cape of Good Hope. Meanwhile sickness continued its progress. The vessel "was like a hospital, and those who could stand were hardly enough to wait upon the sick." Nearly every night a body was committed to the sea. There were buried in less than six weeks Sporing, an assistant naturalist,

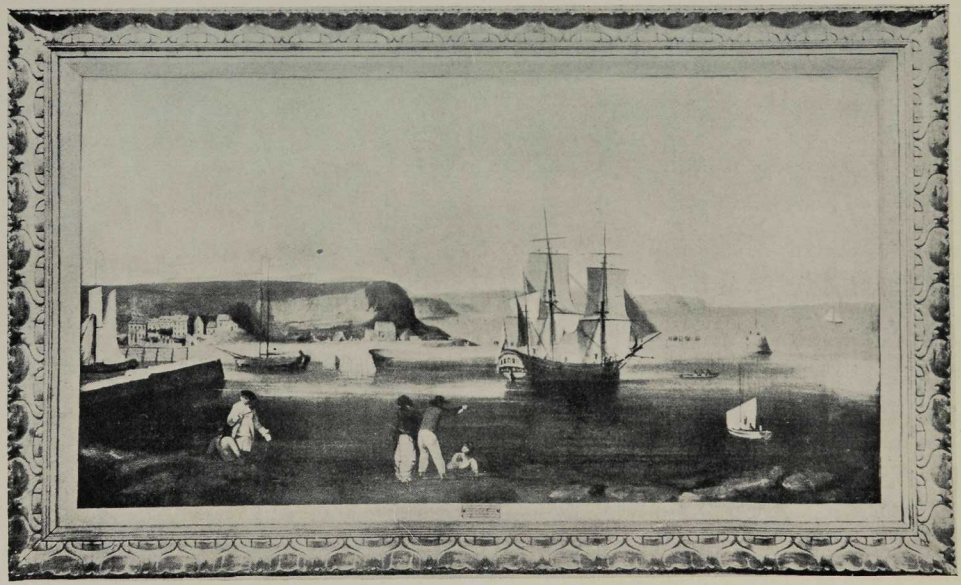
the draughtsman Parkinson, Green the astronomer, the boatswain's mate, the carpenter and his mate, two quarter-masters, the old sail-maker and his mate, the cook, the corporal of marines, two workmen and nine seamen, in all twenty-three men.

Cook's heart was lacerated as he saw his brave companions leaving him thus, and he swore that if his own life were spared he would devote all his intelligence and energy to combating scurvy, which had spared his ship for so many long months, only to decimate her complement now in this terrible way.

On March 15th the *Endeavour* called at the Cape of Good Hope, which Cook described as one of the barest and most barren countries which he had seen in the course of his voyage. But Cape Town, then inhabited by Dutch colonists, being very healthy, Cook determined to remain there long enough to effect the cure of the sick men whom he still had on board. "The women," says Hawkesworth, "in general are very handsome; they have fine clear skins, and a bloom of colour that indicates a purity of constitution, and a high health. They make the best wives in the world, both as mistresses of a family and mothers; and there is scarcely a house that does not swarm with children.

"The air is salutary to a high degree; so that those who bring diseases hither from Europe, generally recover perfect health in a short time. . . ."

Cook remained for a month at Cape Town, which



"Endeavour" Outward Bound from Whitby on Captain Cook's First Voyage to the South Seas.
From the National Gallery, Canberra.

he left on April 14th, bound for London. On May 1st he landed at St. Helena, where the only European residents were English. The way in which his countrymen treated their black slaves offended Cook vastly, who noted in his Journal, with the greatest bluntness, " Slaves are very numerous at St. Helena, and are drawn from nearly every part of the world; they seem very miserable, worn out by ill-treatment, of which they frequently complain; and I am sorry to say that examples of this barbarity are more frequent among my countrymen than among the Dutch of Batavia and the Cape, who are reproached, perhaps rightly, with lack of humanity."

On May 4th the *Endeavour* left St. Helena with the *Portland*, a British warship, and twelve East Indiamen, but Cook parted company with them some days later, as he found that the *Endeavour* " carried sail more sluggishly than the others."

Two other bodies were committed to the sea, those of the young mate and of Lieutenant Hicks, who had been suffering from phthisis for some time.

On June 10th the English coast appeared on the horizon, and two days later the *Endeavour* anchored in the Downs to the north of Dover.

During this tremendous voyage round the world, which had lasted almost three years, Cook had endowed his country with fertile islands and vast countries. He had enriched the science of navigation with charts of admirable accuracy and clarity, and, with the help of the scientists who had accompanied

him, he had added invaluable chapters to astronomy and natural history. Everywhere and always he had shown himself a great leader, as exacting of himself as of others, straight and loyal, just and humane. Forty of his companions had not returned, but he placed the glory of England and the advancement of science before everything. Cook, as soon as he had landed, was ready to start again.

PART TWO

THE SECOND VOYAGE

CHAPTER I

REST AND PREPARATIONS

DURING the year which he spent in England, Cook had scarcely six months leisure, being employed in corresponding with the Admiralty, to which he sent all his notes, his Journal, his logs, drawings and charts. He also wrote for the Royal Society a monograph on the tides in the South Seas, according to the observations which he had made on board the *Endeavour*. Mr. Stephens congratulated him in the name of the Lords of the Admiralty on the success of the expedition which he had led. Cook was promoted to the rank of Commander in the Royal Navy. He was disappointed, for he had hoped that he would be rewarded with the rank of Captain; but, having an absolute regard for discipline, he did not complain. It mattered little that he had given his country New Zealand and Australia. The sacred rights of seniority must be respected.

The joy which Cook experienced at seeing his family again and finding them in the quiet little house in the East End of London, where Elizabeth had trembled and prayed for him for three years, was sadly darkened when he heard of the death of two of his children. On the eve of the departure of the

Endeavour, in 1768, his wife had given birth to a son, which did not live, and his only daughter, named Elizabeth after her mother, had died recently at the age of four. It is the lot of sailors to find gaps round their fireside when they return from their long wanderings round the world. Cook did not rail at fate. He tenderly embraced his young wife, still so sweetly fair, and his two little boys. What wonderful things he had brought back for them, and what stories he had to tell!

Elizabeth was proud. The reputation of her husband had spread all over England. All the newspapers spoke of him; illustrious personages wrote to him; Ministers received him.

Away in the depths of Yorkshire, in the little village of Great Ayton, there was an old man of nearly eighty who was very proud too. This was Cook's old father, who had been a widower for three years, and who had not seen his son for many long years. Life had been frequently unhappy at Great Ayton. Of the eight children of the Cooks, five were dead. But James's glory was enough to atone for the sorrows. Cook was overjoyed when he was told that his son had discovered islands larger than Yorkshire and countries greater than the whole of England. "I was quite right to send him to Staithes to Mr. Saunderson," declared the old man. "That is what gave him the bent for the sea."

One day James Cook went to see his father. He was dressed in his Commander's uniform. What a

joy for his father, and what pride could be seen in the eyes of the villagers ! The man of whom all England spoke was one of themselves. He had been educated on the forms of the little school, which had not changed. It was the good Cleveland soil that had bred in him his energy, his pertinacity and his health. He had become a sailor, but he was born a countryman.

On leaving Great Ayton Cook went to Whitby. He traversed in a carriage part of the road over which he had journeyed thirty years before, over the high moorland. He recalled the little boy that he was then, who set his face, impatient and joyful, towards the sea which already reigned supreme in his childish dreams. He felt once more the enthusiasm which had filled his heart at the first sight of that widespread field of grey.

Some miles before reaching Whitby, where his intended visit was expected, Cook saw a group of men by the roadside. As he approached he heard the sound of frantic cheering, mingled with his own name. The chief men of Whitby had shown him the delicate attention of coming to welcome him outside the town and of accompanying him in his entry. Cook, greatly touched by this courteous attention, spoke of his first arrival in Whitby after his flight from the aged grocer of Staithes. He asked to be taken to his first patrons, John and Henry Walker, to whom he owed much of the success of his seafaring career. They met him with genuine delight. They had warned the old housekeeper, her from whom

Cook had once requested a corner of the table and a candle by which to read in the winter evenings, to bear in mind that the former ship's boy had become a Commander in the Royal Navy, and that he must be treated accordingly. The excellent lady promised that she would be very circumspect and respectful to James Cook, for whom she had always kept a warm place in her heart. She declared that she would make him her best bow. But when Commander Cook appeared, the housekeeper, forgetting all her promises, opened her arms wide and cried, " James, my dear, how glad I am to see you ! " The eagerness with which Cook embraced the old lady silenced the reproaches which sprang to the lips of the two brothers.

When Cook had doubled Cape Horn, he had kept on southwards in search of the great southern continent, then supposed to exist, and the absence of currents had led him to the conclusion that this continent had no existence.

The famous hydrographer, Alexander Dalrymple, who had first been nominated to lead the expedition in which Cook had just distinguished himself, maintained, on the other hand, that the continent did exist, and that Cook's deductions proved nothing. Cook, he said, had not sufficiently explored the Antarctic Ocean to have the right to deny the existence of *Terra Australis Incognita.*

For two hundred years countless scientists, travellers and geographers had believed that an enormous tract

of land, much greater than Europe, lay to the south of the globe. Tasman thought that the corner of New Zealand which he had discovered formed part of it. A Frenchman, Lozier Bouvet, who had been commissioned by the East India Company at the beginning of the eighteenth century, affirmed that he had seen, in latitude 54° south and longitude 11° east, a point of land, to which he had given the name of Cape Circumcision. The Portuguese sailor Fernandez de Quiros also believed that he had sighted the great southern continent.

The imagination of the public invested this mysterious land with marvels. It was reported to be inhabited by a highly civilised race, that rivers of gold flowed there, that the sun cast a fantastic light upon it, and that the nation which first planted its flag upon the fruitful continent would shortly become the mistress of the world.

This dream appealed to England. The First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Sandwich, was greatly interested in the discussions raised by *Terra Australis Incognita*. He thought that if this country really existed, it would be humiliating if any other nation took possession of it. It was necessary, if this intriguing problem were to be solved, to fit out a powerful expedition, at the head of which the first sailor in England should be put. When Lord Sandwich's plans were ripe, he had no room for hesitation in selecting the chief of this fantastic expedition. He applied to Commander Cook.

From the day when Cook had accepted the leadership of this new exploration of the South Seas, he concentrated all his efforts upon the formidable task for which he now became responsible. As he had done before, he busied himself in the choice of the ship, or rather two ships, which the Lords of the Admiralty had decided to fit out, so that the voyage might be accomplished with the maximum of safety and efficiency. Cook wanted his ships to be sturdy rather than fast, built just like the *Endeavour*, which had proved herself so staunch during her three years' voyage. He found two ships which were exactly suited to the work he contemplated, which had been built at Whitby by the builder from whose yard the *Endeavour* had been launched.

The first and biggest of these ships, of 462 tons measurement, was called the *Resolution*, and the second, of 336 tons, the *Adventure*. On November 28th, 1771, Cook was appointed to the command of the *Resolution*, and a famous naval officer, Tobias Furneaux, was about the same time appointed to the *Adventure*. Lieutenant Palliser Cooper, Clerke and Pickersgill were allotted to Cook. The two last, as well as the Lieutenant of Marines and several other officers and members of the crew, had accompanied Cook on his former voyage. They had all begged to be allowed to go with the leader whom they admired and loved. The *Resolution* carried a complement of 112 officers and men and twenty-four guns, the *Adventure* eighty-one officers and men and twenty guns. The

two ships were victualled for two years and a half.

This matter of provisioning occupied Cook's particular care. He was determined to employ every means of overcoming scurvy. He ordered to be put on board a large quantity of every remedy and every sort of food which he considered useful against this terrible disease, such as malt, pickled and salted cabbages, tablets of portable beef-tea, saloup, mustard, preserved carrots, orange and lemon jelly and thickened beer-wort. Thanks to the measured consumption of these substances, scurvy was to be for ever banished from future voyages. Cook's forethought had delivered humanity from a menacing scourge, and considerably diminished mortality during long sea voyages.

Banks and Dr. Solander had decided to sail in the *Resolution*, accompanied by a train of naturalists, draughtsmen and servants. Banks, who liked comfort and did not spare expense to procure it, had extra cabins built on the poop, and also had alterations carried out to accommodate his baggage. When this was completed, and all the scientific instruments and cases were put on board, it was found that the deeply laden vessel drew seventeen feet, which was considered much greater than her proper draught. The Admiralty, considering that the new cabins added an extra weight which would interfere with the working of the ship, ordered Cook to do away with them. Banks,

fancying that he would not be comfortable enough, thereupon, with all his followers, declined to accompany the expedition. The English Press made a good deal of this incident, and some papers declared that the question of accommodation was merely a pretext, and that if Banks did not go, it was because the Spanish Ambassador had given him to understand that his Government looked with a disapproving eye upon all exploration of the South Seas.

It was necessary to select substitutes for Banks and his friends. The choice of the Admiralty fell upon two German naturalists, John Forster and George Forster his son, who was only twenty. John Forster had a great reputation as a scientist, but had a detestable nature. The son in no way yielded to his father in this respect, so that the two Forsters relieved a voyage which was apt to be monotonous with constant complaints and quarrels. No single member of the crew was spared by these two men of science.

The Admiralty also employed a famous painter, William Hodges, "in order to have pictures and drawings of every object which the pen of the travellers could not sufficiently describe." The Royal Observatory entrusted William Wales and William Bayly with the astronomical observations. The former sailed in the *Resolution*, the latter in the *Adventure*. On June 21st, 1772, Cook said good-bye to his family. He took a tender farewell of Elizabeth, who, with the courage of a sailor's wife, did her utmost to restrain her tears. He pressed his children

to his breast, and with his heart swelling with emotion, left the little house which he would see again when it pleased God.

By July 3rd the *Resolution* and the *Adventure* were anchored off Plymouth, where Cook received his official instructions. These ordered him "to sail round the world in the highest southern latitudes, entering every corner of the Pacific Ocean which he had not yet examined, in order finally and definitely to settle the question so often raised of the existence of a southern continent, and to explore all parts of the southern hemisphere to which his brave and prudent efforts should afford him access."

On July 13th the *Resolution* and the *Adventure* set out in company for the unknown.

CHAPTER II

THE SOUTHERN ICE-FIELDS

As on his previous voyage, Cook called at Funchal, in the Island of Madeira, in order to take on board water, wine, fruit and other provisions. But on leaving Funchal, instead of steering for Rio de Janeiro, as he had done four years previously, he laid a course for the Cape of Good Hope. Reckoning that he could not carry enough water for so long a voyage, he called at Santiago, one of the Cape Verde Islands, and anchored in the harbour of Praya, where he stayed four days. On September 8th he crossed the Equator, and after an uneventful voyage, the *Resolution* and *Adventure* arrived at the Cape of Good Hope on October 30th.

Cook landed, and, accompanied by Captain Furneaux and the two Forsters, called on Baron de Plattenburg, the Governor of the Cape, who received them very courteously and promised to do everything in his power to procure for them everything that they required. He informed them that the captains of two French ships from Mauritius, about eight months before, had discovered land on the meridian of that island and latitude 48° south. The French sailors coasted for forty miles along the shore until they

reached a bay, which they were about to enter when they were carried out to sea. The two ships were separated by a gale, having lost several of their boats, in which were the men sounding the bay. One of the ships, called *La Fortune*, arrived some time later at Mauritius, and her captain was sent to France with the account of his discoveries. The Dutch Governor added that in the previous March other French ships from Mauritius, commanded by Captain Marion, had touched at the Cape, on their way to the South Seas on a voyage of discovery.

Cook was greatly interested by this account. France was, then, also in search of the great continent. There was no time to be lost. As soon as the stores had been replenished and the ships caulked, painted and repaired, he set sail. The excellent health of his crews did not necessitate a long stay in the invigorating climate of the Cape.

On November 22nd the *Resolution* and *Adventure* got under way and steered for Cape Circumcision, that mysterious land which the French navigator, Lozier Bouvet, reported that he had seen far to the south. It was indeed a setting out towards the unknown.

As they were about to proceed into Arctic regions, Cook issued his men with trousers, jackets and stockings of very warm cloth. Reckoning rightly that they would be many weeks without sighting land, he ordered that the most economical use should be made of water, and posted a sentry over the water-

butt on the poop. He himself washed in salt water, and everybody was obliged to do the same.

The vessels were shortly overtaken by a violent gale, and great waves swept their decks. The cold became intense, and the sailors were so affected by it that Cook increased their spirit ration.

On November 10th icebergs appeared on the horizon. One of these was so hidden by the fog and falling snow that it was only a mile away before they saw it. It was about fifty feet high and half a mile round. It was flat-topped, and the waves beat furiously against its perpendicular sides.

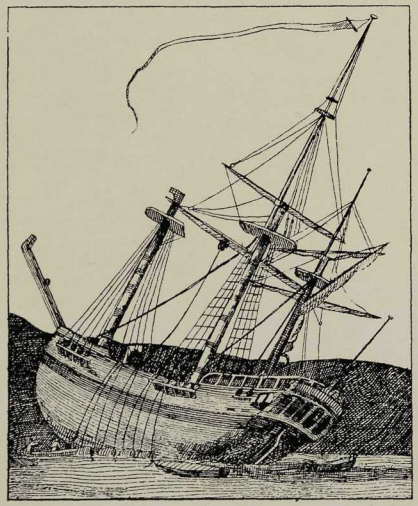
Cook was compelled to sail very warily among these enormous icebergs, which loomed up suddenly like giant spectres through the milky fog. Great whales were seen in the vicinity.

On November 14th a large ice-floe appeared. The travellers could not see the end of it, to North or South. In various parts of the floe were hills of ice resembling the floating bergs. On drawing nearer they made out penguins, white birds and blue petrels. Cook sailed along the edge of this curious expanse, in the hope of finding a way through to the south. He and his officers believed that ice formed in bays and rivers, and that land must be near at hand and would be found behind this great barrier.

Before long the ships were enclosed in an ice-field, from which they were only able to escape thanks to a northerly wind which sprang up.

Icicles hung on every side from the sails and

Copies of the only sketches
known to exist of
H.M. Discovery Ship "ENDEAVOUR Bark."
Lieut. James Cook, R.N., *Commanding*
1768–1771



1

2

3

4

5

1. From Hawkesworth's *Voyages*.
2. From the same source as (1).
3. From the MS. journal of Robert Molineux, Master of *Endeavour*.
4. From Parkinson's *Journal of a Voyage to the South Seas*.
5. From the same source as (4).

(*By permission of Commander Rupert T. Gould, R.N.*)

rigging, causing the hands of the sailors to bleed as they worked them.

During these weeks Cook tried to get round the ice-field in order to reach the continent situated to the south of it. Dangers increased every moment in the midst of these floating islands and islets, which seemed to be increasing in number. The Forsters never ceased to grumble at the climate and to declare that the southern summer was one of Nature's jokes. However, they killed several aquatic birds, chiefly blue petrels and penguins. The sailors suffered terribly from the cold. Cook, who watched with eager anxiety over the health of his men, made them lengthen the sleeves of their vests with flannel, and gave them also caps of the same material.

As the supply of water was running low, Cook had blocks of ice gathered, which, when thawed, yielded excellent soft water.

In spite of the rigours of the climate and the fearful desolation of these parts, Christmas was celebrated with plentiful libations—an apotheosis of drink, but a spark of cheerfulness in the very hard life of these sailors, oblivious for the moment of death, which stalked around.

Despairing of ever being able to sail round the expanse of ice which seemed to extend eastward and westward to infinity, Cook resolved to explore the land discovered by Bouvet. He went to the locality described by the French sailor as the position of Cape

Circumcision, but in spite of a clear atmosphere he could see nothing, and concluded that Bouvet "had been mistaken, and had seen only mountains of ice, surrounded by ice-floes or floating bergs." (This land was definitely located by a German ship in 1898.)

On February 8th the *Adventure*, which, until then, had remained quite close to the *Resolution*, did not reply to a signal. Cook, fearing that she might have mistaken her course, waited for two days. He fired his guns and lighted flares at night. The *Adventure* did not appear. Cook had appointed, as a rendezvous in case of separation, Queen Charlotte Sound in New Zealand. He was therefore not too greatly concerned, and continued to explore these Arctic regions trying to find the land which, according to the Governor of the Cape, had recently been discovered by French ships. He saw nothing but eternal icebergs. As the season was becoming ever less favourable, the southern summer being on the wane, Cook resolved to leave the high southern latitudes and make for New Zealand, in order to get news of the *Adventure* and to give his complement a sight of green foliage for which they were beginning to long.

During the night of February 17th–18th the sky was illuminated with a supernatural light, which filled Cook and his companions with ecstasy. Rays of light of spiral or circular form fell from the sky and spread over the great expanse of sea an indefinite and mysterious glow. It was the Aurora Australis, the sister of the Aurora Borealis of the north.

Cook wished to visit the eastern coast of Van Diemen's Land, discovered by Tasman, and to discover whether or not it was connected to New Holland. The wind being unfavourable, however, he was compelled to steer straight for New Zealand, where he arrived on March 25th and anchored in Dusky Bay.

He had been at sea for a hundred and seventeen days on end, and had sailed 3660 leagues without having once sighted land.

CHAPTER III

IN NEW ZEALAND AGAIN

Cook and his companions experienced great delight at landing. The weather was delicious and the air warm. The perpetual anxiety lest their ship should strike on the ice, during those interminable days spent among the ice-floes, the shrouding fog which rested on the sea, the cold which paralysed the limbs and froze the mind, the snow, rain, hail and stormy wind, all seemed now a nightmare which had vanished at the breath of the blue sky of New Zealand. True men rapidly forget the sufferings of yesterday, and sailors are men among men.

Having found a suitable harbour, Cook resolved to remain for a time in Dusky Bay. A river ran within a hundred yards of his anchorage. Woods were handy. The situation was charming. Tents were pitched for the smiths, sail-makers and coopers. Cook set to work to brew beer from the buds and leaves of a tree which resembled the black pine of North America. He fancied, from an examination of this tree, that with the addition of malt and molasses it would make a wholesome liquor, which would help to supply the deficiency of vegetables, which were scarce. His experiment was successful. He

continued unremittingly his warfare against scurvy. For the first time in nautical history he had only had one case of scurvy during the whole of the long and terrible voyage from the Cape to New Zealand, and, as he says in his Journal, "this man had a bad constitution and a complication of other complaints."

Some days after the arrival of the *Resolution* in Dusky Bay a few natives showed themselves. They appeared to take no heed of the Englishmen, who on their side paid no attention to them. Cook knew, from experience, that the best way of enticing them to approach was to seem to ignore them.

One evening when Cook was returning from exploring the bay, where the ducks were so numerous that fourteen were killed in a day, he was hailed by a Maori, who stood, club in hand, on the summit of a rock. Behind him, at the edge of a wood, were two women, each armed with a spear. Cook landed and went up to him, embraced him and offered him some trifles which he had about him. The officers and men who were with him left the boat and came up. The younger of the two women began to talk at a tremendous rate. One of the sailors observed wisely that women have long tongues in all parts of the world, and Cook remarked in his Journal, "Her volubility surpassed that of any talker whom I have ever heard." Seeing the strangers did not understand her, the young Maori girl began to dance.

Gradually Cook's relations with the different natives who ventured to show themselves became more and

more cordial. A Maori and his daughter came on board the *Resolution*, furnished with pieces of cloth which they offered to the Englishmen as presents. For some unknown reason, father and daughter quarrelled. The man beat the girl, and she, who seemed to be an advanced feminist, returned his blows with interest. Then the tour of the ship began. The two natives admired each novelty with enthusiasm. They were above all delighted with the sight of chairs and the use to which they were put. Suddenly the man, to show the esteem and friendship with which he regarded Cook, produced a little leather bag from beneath his clothing, and after dipping into it his fingers, which came out sticky with a filthy-smelling oil, wished to anoint the hair of the captain of the *Resolution*, who, however, declined the honour. The painter Hodges, who was on the spot, was obliged to suffer the operation, for the girl, having plunged a tuft of feathers in the oil, insisted upon placing them round the neck of the unhappy artist, who "complacently kept this evil-smelling present."

On another occasion Cook captivated a family of Indians by having played to them a bagpipes and fife, and also a drum. It was this last instrument which particularly charmed them.

One of the principal occupations of the English during their stay at Dusky Bay was chasing seals, which were found in fairly large numbers close to shore. The fat of these animals was burnt in lamps, and their flesh formed very good meat. Ducks and

other sea-birds, to say nothing of capital fish, were frequently added to the bill of fare.

One day it occurred to Cook to release in the little harbour five geese which remained from those he took on board at the Cape. As this harbour, which was named Goose Creek, was inhabited and contained suitable food for the birds, Cook hoped that they might breed there and increase for the benefit of the natives.

At the beginning of May the weather became colder, and incessant rain began to fall. Although the state of his men's health was excellent, Cook decided to proceed northward, and call at Queen Charlotte Sound, where he hoped to meet the *Adventure*.

He left Dusky Bay on May 11th, and a week afterwards arrived in sight of Queen Charlotte Sound, where he was delighted to find the *Adventure*, which had been waiting there for six weeks for the *Resolution*, from which she had been separated for over three months. The sailors of both ships showed great pleasure at meeting one another again, and this pleasure manifested itself by a generous absorption of rum.

Captain Furneaux reported to his chief the events which had followed upon the *Adventure* losing sight of the *Resolution*. He had coasted along Van Diemen's land, and was of the opinion that there was no strait between it and New Holland, but only a very deep bay. He had then sailed to the rendezvous appointed by Cook.

Cook's intention was to stay no longer than a couple of months in Queen Charlotte Sound, which he proposed to employ in exploring for the second time the country where he had been three years before.

He also wished to try to acclimatise the animals and vegetables of Europe. With this end in view, he took ashore the only ram and sheep which remained of those he had shipped at the Cape. Some days later both were found dead, apparently poisoned by venomous plants. He then landed a pair of goats. Captain Furneaux had meanwhile established a boar and two sows on shore. Cook had several kinds of cereals sown, and planted carrots, turnips, parsnips and potatoes.

Cook's relations with the natives on the shores of the Sound were far more friendly than they had been during his last voyage. Two or three Maori families established themselves near the ships, and kept themselves busy fishing for the Englishmen, who, thanks to the efforts of these adroit fishermen, were amply furnished with all sorts of fish.

Cook and his companions received many visits from the natives. They formed a less high opinion of the morality of the people and the chastity of their women than they had before. The women, in whom the sailors appeared to discover charms, were far from fascinating Cook and his gentlemen. "Their lips," as one reads in Forster's Journal, "were

covered with little spots painted with blackish blue: their cheeks were covered with a bright red mixture of earth and oil. Their hair and clothes were full of vermin, which they occasionally ate, and their unpleasant smell announced them from afar. However, their black eyes, lively enough, were not lacking in expression, and the grouping of their features was fairly agreeable."

There were the usual thefts. One day a Maori woman stole the jacket of one of the sailors and gave it to one of her friends, who threw stones at the sailor when he tried to recover it. The Englishman, enraged at this, ran after the lady and, with all the science of the ring, decorated her "with a black eye and a bleeding nose."

Curiously enough, Cook did not meet any of the natives whom he had met at his last visit to Queen Charlotte Sound. One day, however, a Maori of very dignified appearance, whose name was Teiratu, came with some of his friends to visit the *Resolution.* He asked for news of Tupia, whose renown had reached his ears. When Cook told him that he was dead, all the natives present displayed their sorrow by giving vent to strange cries, which were interpreted as lamentations.

Cook came to the conclusion that all the Maoris who lived in these parts in 1770 had been driven away, or had gone away voluntarily to establish themselves elsewhere. The fort which he had pre-

viously visited was deserted, and abandoned huts were everywhere visible. These observations confirmed the opinion which Cook had formed during his first voyage, when he believed that the country had never been very densely populated, especially the South Island, Tovy-Poenammoo.

On June 7th the *Resolution* and *Adventure* set sail together and left Queen Charlotte Sound. Cook had meant to explore Van Diemen's Land, but as Captain Furneaux had partly done this, he decided to sail eastward towards Tahiti.

During the voyage twenty of the *Adventure's* men were stricken with scurvy. The cook of this vessel died. At the same time there was not a single case of the complaint on board the *Resolution*. Others manifesting symptoms later, the evil was completely averted by malt, preserved carrots and lemon and orange jelly. Cook attributed the difference in the incidence of scurvy in either ship partly to the fact that the men of the *Adventure* had only eaten very few vegetables during their stay in New Zealand. The sailors were not fond of the antiscorbutic herbs and vegetables, such as celery, for example, but Cook slowly accustomed them to this wholesome diet.

After having sighted a group of islands, which he took to be those named by Bougainville the Dangerous Archipelago, Cook arrived off Tahiti on August 15th. He determined to anchor in Oaiti-Piha Bay, close to the south-eastern end of the island. The two ships found themselves close to a bank of reefs, from which

they only escaped with great difficulty, and on August 17th they landed on the perfumed island, which, even to a greater extent than New Zealand, seemed a corner of paradise to men who had come from the southern hell.

CHAPTER IV

TAHITI AND THE SOCIETY ISLANDS

SEEN from the sea, the stretch of coast off which the vessels had just anchored presented an entrancing spectacle, with its soft hills, at the feet of which lay spread a smiling and fertile plain, and with a long narrow valley covered with plantations and graceful huts surrounded by scented shrubs. The slim palms, with their wide branches; the tall coconuts, which carried at their summits, besides their marvellous fruit, parrakeets with sapphire plumage; rich banana trees, in which rested green kingfishers and white doves, gardenias and guettardas—both trees and flowers flourished luxuriantly under the clear blue of a perfect sky. Officers and men, scientists and servants, all were on deck, and, united in their admiration, silently contemplated the natural splendour of the enchanted island.

The vessels were soon overrun with natives, who brought coconuts, bananas, potatoes, yams and other provisions which were exchanged for nails and necklace beads. Several Tahitians who represented themselves as being chiefs received shirts and hatchets, for which they promised to bring pigs and fowls. It need hardly be said that their promises were not kept.

One of these chiefs even profited by his presence on board the *Resolution* to appropriate several articles, which he passed on to his comrades. Cook saw with sorrow that the ideas of the Tahitians on the right of property had scarcely improved since his last visit. He did not fail, however, to reprimand severely any attempt at theft on their part.

When he had landed, Cook met several natives, who welcomed him with symptoms of joy. These were old acquaintances. They asked endless questions about Banks and the other Englishmen who had accompanied Cook on his former voyage. They scarcely even inquired for Tupia, and received the news of his death with indifference.

The island had seen many changes in four years. Tootahah, chief of one of the peninsulas of Tahiti, had been killed, as well as Toubourai Tamaide and several other chiefs, in a battle which had taken place between the people of the two kingdoms, six months before the arrival of the *Resolution*. Peace, however, had now been established.

During his stay in Oaiti-Piha Bay, Cook and his companions made several excursions into this part of the island. Waheatoua, the young king of the district, offered the Englishmen a fair number of pigs. He welcomed the newcomers warmly, and told them that several months previously a strange vessel had anchored in the neighbourhood, and the captain, having landed, had hanged four sailors. A fifth, who was to suffer the same fate, had made his escape

and was still on the island, but Cook, in spite of all his efforts, could never find him. He learnt later that the vessel of which the king spoke was a Spanish ship from Callao, in Peru.

Weheatoua did not lack intelligence. Deeply admiring the captain's watch, and listening with astonishment to its ticking, he asked what it was for. It was explained to him that it measured the day, and was thus like the sun, the height of which served him and his companions as a means of ascertaining the divisions of time. He thought for a long time, then, to show that he had understood, he said, pointing to the watch, "Little sun."

The Tahitians in this part of the island showed themselves smiling and amiable, and nearly always accorded Cook and his friends the most perfect hospitality. Barter, however, was accompanied by the inevitable cheating which seemed inherent in the commercial ideas of the Tahitians. One of them, who called himself a chief, went to see Cook in the morning, and offered to sell him a lot of fruit, among them some coconuts. Cook accepted the offer, but when he took possession of the goods he found that all the milk had been drawn from the nuts. He mentioned the fraud to the native, who appeared not to understand him, but who expressed the greatest surprise when he saw some of them opened, and sent some bananas and plantains in compensation.

The fruit which the Englishmen procured in Oaiti. Piha Bay helped to cure the many invalids of the

Adventure. The state of health on board the *Resolution* was most satisfactory. Only a single marine died, two days after the arrival of the ship at Tahiti. He had been suffering for a long time from several grave organic diseases, but he showed no symptom of scurvy.

On August 24th the two ships weighed anchor, and moored again the next evening in Matavai Bay, where the *Endeavour* had remained for three months in 1769.

"Toote," as the Tahitians called Cook, was received by his old friends with transports of enthusiasm. All those who had accompanied him on his last voyage were surrounded by natives, who recognised them, embraced them, and stole from them. Touching scenes took place; tears of joy fell in abundance, the smiles of the pretty Tahitian girls stirred the hearts of the sailors with unmixed delight. The older women, who seemed to have acquired a new parenthood, asked the Englishmen whether "they had not brought some little thing for their old mothers." As for the girls, who had the sense of relationship to the same extent, they said, showing the dazzling whiteness of their teeth, "Be good to your dear little sisters." And presents poured into the hands of the Tahitians.

Cook went to visit King Otoo, whom he had not met on his former voyage. He was a magnificent man, six foot high and about thirty years old. He had to be persuaded to come on board the *Resolution*,

for he confessed to a terrible dread of guns. However, he came, but refused to touch the food that was offered him, manifesting the greatest surprise at seeing the strangers drinking tea, which he called hot water, and eating butter, which he imagined to be oil. On the next day he displayed to the Englishmen a *heava*, or dramatic work consisting of dances and speeches, the parts being taken by five men and a woman, who was none other than the King's sister, and who showed "extraordinary talent."

Cook remained at Matavai for a fortnight, and revisited all the neighbourhood with great satisfaction. One day he was accosted by an aged woman of distinguished appearance. It was Tootahah's mother, who took the Captain's two hands in hers and cried, bursting into tears, "Tootahah your friend is dead." The genuine grief of the old lady touched even the heart of the stern sailor.

The two Forsters, father and son, explored the interior of the island of enchantment which had made their tempers serene. One day, when he had journeyed far from the shore and was assailed by great weariness, George Forster was received by a Tahitian family, whose daughter, he said, "from the beauty of her figure, the clearness of her complexion, and the regularity of her features, equalled and perhaps even surpassed all the beauties whom we had seen in Tahiti hitherto." This beautiful girl, in order to revive the naturalist, rubbed his arms and legs with her hands and pinched his muscles gently with her

fingers. Forster declared the effect of this massage was extremely stimulating.

The Englishmen's stay passed without outstanding incident. Now and then there were slight quarrels, soon made up, between the sailors and the natives, but on the whole the relations between the Tahitians and the English were unclouded, and it was therefore with mutual regret that they parted. When the ships left harbour on September 1st, the natives crowded to the shore to say good-bye to the good and generous friends who were leaving them.

Cook then went among the surrounding islands, which he had visited on his former voyage, and to which he had given, in common with Tahiti, the name of the Society Islands. Two days after he left Matavai, he anchored in the harbour of Owharre, on the coast of the island of Huaheine, where he was received by the natives with the utmost cordiality. Barter began at once, and the two ships were soon abundantly provided with pigs and fowls. Cook went to see Orea, the old king of the island, who had shown him such touching friendship at his previous visit. The old man, perceiving the Captain, advanced towards him and embraced him tenderly. Tears of joy ran down his cheeks, and Cook did not hide his emotion at revisiting the old man whom he "considered as his father."

Every day Orea sent Cook a large quantity of the best fruit and vegetables in the country.

A few vexatious incidents, however, interrupted

the harmony of the relations between the English and the natives. Cook, having heard that one of the latter had behaved insolently, went towards him. The Indian carried a club in each hand. Cook, who possessed herculean strength, took them from him and broke them before his eyes, then, drawing his sword, forced him to retire.

On the same day a disagreeable adventure, which might have had a tragic ending, befell Dr. Sparmann, a learned Swedish naturalist who had been taken on board at the Cape, at the urgent solicitation of the Forsters. Sparmann had gone some distance into the interior of the island to carry out botanical investigations, and met two natives, who invited him, with protestations of friendship, to approach. But, profiting by a moment of inattention on the part of the stranger, they snatched from his belt a knife, the only weapon which he had, and struck him on the head. The blow knocked him down. The bandits then took off his black satin waistcoat, and in trying to seize his jacket, tore it to shreds. He managed to escape from them, and took to his heels towards the shore. But the Indians overtook him, beat him unmercifully, and dragged his shirt over his head. As the buttons prevented it coming off his wrists, they were about to cut off his hands, when the scientist unbuttoned the sleeves with his teeth. Having secured the shirt, the thieves made off with their booty.

When the good king heard of this outrage, he wept and uttered cries of distress, as did all his attendants.

When his grief had abated he began to upbraid his people, recalling the friendly manner in which the powerful stranger had treated the inhabitants of Huaheine during his two visits, and which made him ashamed of such conduct. Finally Orea took a note of the things stolen from Dr. Sparmann, and promised to have the most careful search made for the robbers. He even wished, to the great alarm of his people, to take his place in Cook's boat in order to go with him in pursuit of the bandits. The expedition was unsuccessful, but on the following day the knife and some of the clothes were returned to Sparmann.

On September 7th, at the very moment when Cook had set sail, Orea came on board the *Resolution*, to tell him that the robbers had been captured and that he wished his friends to land either to punish the culprits or assist at their chastisement. Cook was unable to accept, and parted from the old man with the most tender farewells.

Before leaving Huaheine Captain Furneaux agreed to receive on board the *Adventure* a young man called Omai, who wished to follow the travellers. Omai was of low birth, but, thanks to his vivid intelligence, he was later of considerable use.

When the *Adventure* returned to England Omai was taken up by Lord Sandwich, who presented him to the King and introduced him in society. He became the man of the day. He became acclimatised and adapted himself without difficulty to his new surroundings. He even learnt to play chess.

Cook went on to the island of Ulietea, where he renewed the acquaintance of Oreo, one of the chiefs who had welcomed him so warmly four years before. Oreo introduced the Captain to Oo-ooroo, the king of the island, who went on board the *Resolution*, accompanied by several of his wives. One of these was of remarkable beauty, and made a great impression on young Forster. He writes in his Journal, speaking of the charms of the Indian lady, "Her hair, which fortunately was not cut, formed the prettiest curls which a painter's imagination has ever produced. Her eyes were full of life and expression, and a cheerful smile embellished her face." Hodges, the painter of the expedition, tried to paint the portrait of this beautiful islander, but she was so restless that he had very great difficulty.

Oreo and the king of Ulietea displayed several performances and dances to the Englishman, and made them numerous presents. After a short but delightful stay at the island, where several pigs were taken on board, Cook set sail on September 17th and steered westward.

Before embarking he had taken on board a young native of seventeen, called Oedidea, who had begged him to take him to England. "His complexion and clothes," writes Cook in his Journal, "caused me to think that he was of good family. I did not at first think him capable of abandoning the easy life led in these islands by people of his rank, and I laughed at the proposition, telling him of the fatigues and

troubles to which he would expose himself by leaving his country. I took care to tell him of the rigour of the climate, of the bad quality of food, but nothing could shake his resolve."

Leaving the hospitable group of the Society Islands, Cook sailed in the direction of the islands which the Dutchmen Schouten and Tasman had discovered, and which Wallis and Bougainville had sighted in the course of their voyages.

The welcome which Captain Cook was to receive there was so cordial that he christened them with the charming name of the Friendly Islands.

CHAPTER V

THE FRIENDLY ISLANDS

AFTER a fortnight's sailing Cook arrived in sight of a delightful island, upon which, at the foot of little wooded hills, lay spread a plain which displayed an extraordinary fertility. It was the island of Middelburg, discovered by Tasman, and called by the natives Eaoowee.

While the Captain sought a suitable place for landing, some canoes, each manned by one or two Indians, came out fearlessly towards the ships. A native boarded the *Resolution*, holding in his hand a root of a stimulating pepper-plant, and as a token of friendship rubbed the noses of Cook and all those on deck with this root. He then sat down quietly and remained plunged in deep silence.

Other natives, among them their chief, Tioony, also climbed on board, and displayed the most friendly and peaceful intentions, which were of good augury of the dispositions of these people towards strangers. In fact, as soon as the ships cast anchor they were surrounded by a fleet of canoes full of Indians, who brought cloth and various articles, which they bartered for nails and trinkets. They were far from emulating the silence of their countryman who had

been the first to visit the English ships, and they set up a terrific hubbub as they offered, with loud voices, the things they had to sell.

Cook landed at the head of a small party. A crowd of natives was assembled on the shore, and shouted in honour of the strangers. They carried no weapons, not even sticks, and offered to exchange cloth for nails. They seemed more anxious to give than to receive, for those who could not get near enough threw bales of cloth towards the newcomers, and went away without asking for anything in return.

Tioony led the Englishmen to his dwelling, agreeably situated three hundred yards from the sea, at the foot of a great prairie. Cook made his Scotch sailors play the bagpipes, and in return the Indian chief ordered three young women to sing. These performed readily, and Cook, who was far from appreciating musical displays, wrote in his Journal, "Their songs were musical and harmonious and noways harsh or disagreeable. The singers beat time by moving the second finger against the thumb, while their three fingers remained lifted."

An excursion into the interior of the island took place. The natives everywhere welcomed the Englishmen with effusion. They kissed their hands and pressed them to their hearts, casting upon them looks of affection and tenderness.

The island was covered with well-managed plantations cultivated with the greatest care. It was full of charming spots, regular nests of verdure, where in

the perfumed air the clear notes of wonderful birds resounded. Cook, who had not found a harbour suitable for his vessels, decided not to tarry among the delights of this enchanting land, upon which, besides himself, no European had landed since Tasman's time, and, the day after his arrival, he left for the neighbouring island of Amsterdam, called Tongatabou by the natives.

The inhabitants of Tongatabou proved themselves as friendly and sociable as their neighbours. They brought the strangers cloth, mats, tools, weapons and ornaments, which the sailors exchanged for their winter clothing. In order to put a stop to this traffic, Cook forbade his men to buy "any fancy stuff." This order produced the desired effect, for the Indians then offered bananas, coconuts, fowls and pigs.

Cook ratified a treaty of friendship with the chief, Atago, who evinced for him exemplary attachment and faithfulness during his stay in this happy island. For Tongatabou was an absolute jewel of verdure, set in the crown of the Pacific islands and well cut by the expert hands of man. "I thought I was transported into the most fertile plains in Europe," wrote Cook in his Journal. "There was not an inch of waste ground; the roads occupied no more space than was absolutely necessary; the fences did not take up above four inches each; and even this was not wholly lost, for in many were planted some useful

trees or plants. It was everywhere the same; change of place altered not the scene. Nature, assisted by a little art, nowhere appears in more splendour than at this isle."

The politeness and affability of the inhabitants did not preclude them from a very pronounced and active inclination to theft. In the course of the visits which they made to the ships, the natives carried off, with singular dexterity, everything which fell to their hands. One of them even possessed himself of the many volumes which he found on a bookshelf in one of the cabins.

William Wales, one of the distinguished astronomers who accompanied the expedition, found himself one day in a situation which Cook described as " sad but laughable." The boat carrying the scientist could not reach the shore owing to lack of water, so he took off his shoes and stockings in order to wade. Having landed, he wished to put them on again, but an Indian who was standing beside them tore them from his hands and threw them to the crowd. The wretched astronomer could not pursue the thief on his bare feet among the sharp rocks of the beach. He stood motionless and disconcerted, asking fearfully what the learned members of the Royal Society of London would say if they could see him standing thus without shoes and stockings in the middle of a jeering crowd of natives. Atago, upon being informed of the incident, discovered the thief and made him return his precious footwear to the scientist.

Cook made the acquaintance of all the chief men of the island, and particularly that of an old priest, whose sanctity did not make him particular in the matter of sobriety, for he got drunk every day, with touching regularity, on pepper-water.

Atago presented Cook to the King of Tongatabou. This royal audience did not produce a very respectful impression on the Captain of the *Resolution*, who described it thus in his Journal: "The king seated himself on a rising ground, about twelve or fifteen yards from us: here we sat facing one another for some minutes. I waited for Atago to show us the way; but, seeing he did not rise, Captain Furneaux and I got up, went and saluted the king and sat down by him. We then presented him with a white shirt (which we put on his back), a few yards of red cloth, a brass kettle, a saw, two large spikes, three looking-glasses, a dozen of medals and some strings of beads. All this time he sat with the same sullen stupid gravity as the day before; he even did not seem to see or know what we were about; his arms appeared immovable at his sides; he did not so much as raise them when we put on the shirt."

This "imbecile chief" sent Cook, after this memorable interview, a large quantity of fruit and a little roast pig weighing about twenty pounds.

The women of Tongatabou by no means observed the same silence. "The women, in particular, are the merriest creatures I ever met with," says Cook, "and will keep chattering by one's side, without the

least invitation, or considering whether they are understood, provided one does but seem pleased with them."

The manners and the good physique of the islanders of Tongatabou were the same as those in the neighbouring island, as far as Cook could ascertain them during his short stay at Eaoowee.

The features of these natives were regular, quick and animated. Their figures were well shaped. The men shaved their beards very close with two shells. Both sexes wore their hair short, and the women powdered it white, red or blue. The latter were as a rule well-made and pretty.

Cook found among the natives no sick, lame or maimed. They all appeared to him healthy, strong and vigorous.

Several strange customs struck the Englishmen very forcibly, such as the method of salutation, which consisted of touching or rubbing one's nose with that of the person greeted. This method was the same as that practised in New Zealand.

Another curious custom which they observed consisted in putting everything that was given them on their heads, but what astonished Cook and his companions most was that the greater part of the men and women had lost their little fingers. Cook learned later that they practised this mutilation on the death of their relations or friends. At Tahiti, as a sign of mourning, the women made bloody wounds on their arms, legs or faces with sharks' teeth.

After a stay of a week in this smiling land, where he took care to enrich the soil with many garden seeds, Cook continued his voyage. His intention was to return again to New Zealand, to Queen Charlotte Sound, to take in the wood and water which he needed. After that he was to continue his exploration of the South Seas in search of the invisible continent. It was with hearts heavy with regret and foreboding that the English saw the flower-clad shores of Tongatabou disappear beneath the blue horizon.

CHAPTER VI

IN QUEEN CHARLOTTE SOUND AND THROUGH THE SOUTH SEAS

On November 21st the two ships were in sight of the New Zealand coast. Shortly afterwards a native chief came on board the *Resolution*, and Cook gave him two boars, two sows, four fowls, two cocks and a considerable quantity of seed of wheat, peas, beans, cabbage, carrots, onions and turnips. Although the Maori seemed more pleased with one nail than with all these agricultural gifts, Cook made him promise to plant the seeds and not to kill the animals.

Before entering Queen Charlotte Sound a fearful storm struck the ships, which gave the two Forsters, who were neither of them too good sailors, the chance of exhibiting once more their charming tempers.

"We rolled at the mercy of the waves," wrote George Forster in his diary, "we frequently shipped great waves, which fell on the decks with terrific speed and destroyed everything in their way. The night brought fresh horrors, especially for those who were not accustomed to the sea from their childhood. The water flooded all the bunks, and, besides, the terrible roaring of the waves, the groaning of the ship's sides and the rolling prevented us getting any sleep.

The thing that completely destroyed our tranquillity was to hear the voices of the sailors, louder than the fury of the wind and sea, uttering the most horrible imprecations. It is impossible to imagine the strange oaths which their wrath invented. Accustomed to danger from their earliest years, the aspect of death did not restrain their blasphemies."

The unforeseen effect of this storm was to separate the two ships. Cook lost sight of the *Adventure*, and in spite of all his efforts he could not find her again. He had no news of her for the rest of the voyage.

The first thing which concerned him, when at last he found it possible to enter Queen Charlotte Sound, was the repair of the ship, the sails and rigging having suffered severely in the course of the hurricane which had swept her.

Cook then had the barrels of biscuit opened, and was unpleasantly surprised to find that the greater part of them was spoilt. More than four thousand pounds were useless.

The welcome of the New Zealanders was cordial. Cook met several whom he had seen in 1770. He also received a visit from Teiratu, the chief who had asked him for news of Tupia on his last visit to the Sound.

The honesty of the Maoris was on a par with that of the other Pacific islanders. When the New Zealanders sold fish to the Englishmen, they were in the habit of taking back with one hand what they gave with the other. One of them had the audacity to

pick Captain Cook's pocket and appropriate his handkerchief.

Several of the officers of the *Resolution* witnessed the cannibalism of the natives, who ate in their presence part of the head of a young man of twenty. Oedidea, the islander whom Cook had brought with him from Ulietea, was "changed into a statue of horror" at this spectacle. When he recovered from his waking nightmare he burst into tears, and overwhelmed the New Zealanders with violent reproaches, swearing that he would never be their friend and would never allow himself to be touched by them. The barbarity of these Indians, their dirty habits, their brutality to their women, revolted this young savage whose civilisation was on a far higher plane.

Cook, anxious to improve the conditions of these people, took care to learn what had become of the animals which he left in New Zealand in May. He saw the youngest of the sows which Captain Furneaux had landed; she was in good condition and quite tame. The natives assured him that the boar and the other sow had gone off into the woods, and had not been killed. The two goats released at the foot of the bay had been slaughtered.

Cook did not allow himself to be discouraged by this vandalism, and he gave those who lived near the harbour in which he had anchored a boar, a young sow, two cocks and two hens, which came from the Friendly Islands. On the west side of the bay he released, unknown to the Indians, three sows and a

boar, two hens and two cocks. They were carried into the woods some distance from the shore, and enough food was left them for about ten days, in order to prevent their returning to the shore and being seen by the natives. Cook was also anxious to replace the two goats which had been killed, and released on the shore the only two which remained to him. Shortly afterwards the he-goat died, probably poisoned by some herb or pricked by a poisonous thorn.

The European seeds which Cook had planted in May caused him more satisfaction than his attempt at acclimatising goats. He found his gardens flourishing, and, thanks to the vegetables which he was able to gather there, and to the celery which the soil of the island produced, the state of health of the crew of the *Resolution* was excellent. During his three months' stay in Queen Charlotte Sound he had not a single case of illness on board.

On the day before his departure Cook wrote out on paper all the directions and instructions necessary for Captain Furneaux to rejoin the *Resolution*. He put this paper in a bottle, which he buried at the foot of a tree which stood in the middle of a garden near the shore, and on November 26th he left the Sound, steering towards the ice-bound waters of the southern seas.

Such was the extraordinary confidence which he inspired in his men that not one of them evinced the slightest discouragement at returning to the terrible

southern latitudes unaccompanied by a sister-ship. "The crew," observed Cook, "sailed with as much courage for the South Pole as though we had been convoyed by a fleet."

On December 6th, at half-past eight in the evening, the *Resolution* found herself at the antipodes of London, and passed beneath the central arch of London Bridge. The memory of the great capital, of their far-off country, of the dear ones who waited there without news, drew a sigh from the breasts of the brave Englishmen. Cook allowed his mind to rest upon the gentle Elizabeth, his children, his old father. He allowed himself to dream. He thought how good it would be to be back in the little house in Mile End Road, among the smiles of his sons and the caresses of his wife. But he put aside his emotion, a weakness unworthy of a sailor, and continued to steer his ship towards the continent which his superiors had bade him discover.

He met with the first iceberg on December 12th, and soon navigation became more and more difficult and dangerous. Snow and hail fell alternately. Oedidea, who had never seen such a spectacle, called the hail "white stones" and the snow "white rain."

On December 22nd the *Resolution* reached the highest south latitude which she had yet attained. The icebergs became more frequent. Cook counted more than a hundred round the ship, and, judging further progress too dangerous, he felt compelled to return northwards. The rigging and ropes were

covered with ice, which made it difficult to work the ship.

Christmas was celebrated, in spite of everything, with the same merry rites as in the previous year, which aroused George Forster's wrath and filled him with bitter comments. "The sailors," he wrote, "took great pains to get drunk. The sight of innumerable islands of ice, in the midst of which we drove at the mercy of the currents, perpetually in danger of shipwreck any moment against one of these bergs, did not deter them from devoting themselves to their favourite amusement. As long as there was any rum left, they kept Christmas like good Christians. Their long familiarity with the sea made them despise danger; fatigue and the inclemency of the sky hardened their muscles and nerves and stultified their minds. It was easy to realise that men who did not concern themselves with their own safety would be as careless of that of others. In general, the life they lead deprives them of domestic consolations, and their gross needs stifle the more delicate affections. Although members of a civilised community, they can to some extent be regarded as a band of men, barbarous, passionate and vindictive; but for all that brave, sincere and true to one another."

While steering northward, in a region which he had not before traversed, Cook considered the possibility of meeting with land. He covered a vast stretch of sea without finding any. He had little more hope of finding a southern continent in these waters. He and

his officers were of the opinion that the barrier of ice which spread over the south reached to the pole, or that behind it lay a continent hidden since the birth of time. If there were land there it could not be inhabited by animals or even birds. It would therefore have been foolhardy on the part of Cook to risk the lives of his men for a fruitless discovery. Sailing in these desolate regions was fearfully hard. The awful monotony of the southern horizon, the melancholy fogs, the torturing cold, the perpetual menace of icebergs, the horrible salt food which produced nausea, the spoilt biscuits, decayed and evil-smelling, the infinite sadness of everything—all these formed the ransom of the unknown seas. Nevertheless, his officers and men did not complain. They trusted their leader, and this faith was their armour against suffering, danger and homesickness.

With such companions, Cook, who had fulfilled his mission, considered that he might explore the Pacific in regions where the climate would be less rigorous and navigation safer. Enough space still remained for him to explore, for him to be able to discover new islands, or at least chart islands already discovered but insufficiently surveyed by previous navigators, from the point of view of hydrographic, geographical and astronomical data. He did not wish to leave the great ocean without seeing all there was to see.

He decided therefore to go in search of the land discovered in the preceding century by Juan Fernandez, and, if he could not find it, to steer for Easter

Island or Davis Land, of which the situation was uncertain. Thence he proposed to regain the tropics and to sail westward, visiting all the islands which he might meet with on the way, and making Tahiti his objective, where he wished to call to obtain news of the *Adventure*. After this long voyage he intended to proceed far enough westward to see the Southern Land of the Holy Ghost, discovered by Quiros, which Bougainville had called the "Archipelago of the Great Cyclades." From there he proposed to sail southwards and south-eastwards into and between the latitudes of 50° and 60°, and to reach Cape Horn in November, so that the whole of the following summer could be employed in exploring the South Atlantic.

Such was the formidable scheme which Cook, studying his charts, had drawn up. Would his officers and men, who hoped to return to England that year, consent? Cook assembled the former and communicated his ambitious projects to them. Without regret or hesitation they all approved. Thus, instead of laying her course for home, the *Resolution*, manned by men who knew neither weariness nor fear, set out towards fresh islands.

CHAPTER VII

EASTER ISLAND AND THE MARQUESAS. RETURN TO THE SOCIETY ISLANDS

WHILE Cook, sailing northwards, searched without success for the reputed land of Juan Fernandez, he suffered from a violent bilious attack, which for a week endangered his life. He struggled against it as long as he could without saying anything, continuing his daily duties and concealing the pain he felt. At last, overcome with fever, he took to his bed.

One day, Patten, the ship's doctor, who performed his duties with admirable competence and devotion, despaired of saving his patient. The crew were in a state of consternation. At last, thanks to his strong constitution and the care which he received, Cook recovered from the attack. When he was convalescent, soup was made for him from the flesh of John Forster's little dog. There was only salt meat on board, and the doctor had declared that the Captain must have soup made from fresh meat. The dog was the only animal remaining on board, and the naturalist, with a generous impulse, sacrificed, in the interests of Cook's health, the animal which he so dearly loved.

The state of health on board was far from satisfactory: John Forster suffered from acute rheu-

matism. Many members of the crew, rendered weak by the execrable quality of the food, were racked also with violent pains. It was high time that the ship entered warmer latitudes. It was thus among transports of delirious joy that the *Resolution* on March 11th arrived in sight of Easter Island, which was the first land sighted for three and a half months. Cook was aware that this island was the land discovered by Davis two centuries earlier.

Easter Island presented a fantastic spectacle, with its strange black columns standing along the shore and its colossal statues. The country was poor and the water bad. However, Cook put in to secure bananas and vegetables. The inhabitants, whose appearance and language bore a certain resemblance to those of the Tahitians, were of a pacific and hospitable disposition. Like the Tahitians, they had negative ideas on the subject of property. They rummaged in the Englishmen's pockets, and abstracted everything they could with the utmost calmness. While Hodges was sitting on a mound, drawing the landscape, an islander came up to him and took off his hat. Another offered Cook a basket of bananas of which the bottom was filled with pebbles.

After a very short stay in this curious but barren place, Cook set out for the Marquesas. On April 6th and 7th the travellers saw four islands which they recognised as those which the Spaniard Mendana had discovered, and which he called the Marquesas Islands. A fifth was added to the group by Cook, and named

by him Hood Island, after the young officer who had seen it first.

As soon as the ship was at anchor in a bay of Saint Christine Island, barter began with the islanders, who proved as barefaced thieves as their brothers in other parts of the Pacific. One of them, who had come on board and carried off an iron candlestick, was killed by a shot, in spite of Cook's orders. This incident made commerce difficult. Nevertheless, the *Resolution* was able to lay in bananas, bread-fruit, yams, coconuts and little pigs.

Cook's principal object in visiting the Marquesas was to fix their position exactly on the chart, which had not hitherto been done. He set to work, therefore, and, with the naturalists, visited the interior, more smiling and fertile than Easter Island, but far from possessing the splendid vegetation of the Society Islands.

On the other hand, the islanders were a magnificent race, with statuesque figures and pure and regular features. Their language resembled that of the Tahitians. The Englishmen saw only very few women, the rest being seemingly hidden by their lords and masters from the corrupting glances of the strangers. Those who did appear, however, were of a provoking but mercenary sociability.

On leaving the Marquesas, Cook set sail for Tahiti, meaning to explore the islands which he met with *en route* and to fix exactly their position. He saw several, among others the island of Tiookea, whose

inhabitants bore carved on their bodies the figure of a fish, emblematic of their manner of living.

Cook discovered, near the Islands of St. George, four new islands, which he called the Palliser Islands, in honour of the great sailor who had always been his protector and friend. At last, on April 22nd, the *Resolution* arrived once more at Tahiti, in the hospitable Bay of Matavai. Every face radiated happiness at the sight of the green island whose enchantments the English had often recalled during the deadly hours of their voyaging among the southern ice, and which they found now more beautiful, more flowery and more scented than when they had left it eight months earlier.

The chief object of this fresh visit was to allow William Wales to make astronomical observations and correct the errors of the chronometers. Cook also wished to carry out certain indispensable repairs to the ship, and to provision her with water and other necessaries.

The relations between the English and the Tahitians were marked, as on previous visits, by the most genuine cordiality. Each visit drew closer the bonds of friendship, and a real intimacy grew up between Cook and Otoo, the king of the island, Towha, the High Admiral, and many other chiefs.

Barter was much easier than hitherto, thanks to feathers of red parrakeets brought from Tongatabou, which excited the envy of the Tahitians.

It is unnecessary to say that thefts were as frequent as before. Cook, however, decided to act with firmness. One of the natives having tried to carry off a cask, was taken red-handed, carried on board, and put in irons. Otoo and other chiefs saw him in this situation, and Cook explained the reason of it to the king, who demanded the release of his subject. The Captain refused, saying that since he punished members of his crew who committed the least offence against the inhabitants of Tahiti, it was only justice to punish this man. "As I knew he would not do it," added Cook, "I was resolved to do it myself."

He consequently ordered that the thief should be taken on shore, where he went himself, with Otoo and the native chiefs. He then put the guard under arms and tied the Indian to a post. When these preparations had been made, Cook, addressing the king, complained of the conduct of his people, setting out that the Englishmen never took anything without paying for it, and that the punishment of this man would be the means of saving the lives of other Tahitians who should be tempted to further thefts for which sooner or later they would be shot. After this harangue the culprit received twenty-four lashes. The crowd which had collected fled in terror, but Towha called them back and spoke in his turn, exhorting his countrymen to behave themselves better in future towards the generous strangers.

In order to impress the natives more deeply, Cook closed the court of justice by putting his men through

their exercises and making them fire at the word of command.

Otoo regaled the Englishmen during their visit to his island with the spectacle of a grand naval review. The number of his war vessels totalled a hundred and sixty double canoes, well equipped, well armed and decorated with flags and pennants. The chiefs and fighting men were seated on benches and clothed in their fighting kit. Besides the war-vessels, there were a hundred and seventy other canoes. Cook estimated that there were nearly eight thousand men in this fleet, which was shortly about to attack the neighbouring island of Eimes. He would very much have liked to see a naval battle, but the chiefs seemed anxious not to start the war until after the departure of the English.

After three delightful weeks passed at Tahiti, Cook resolved to set sail for Huaheine. One of the gunners' mates, called Marra, who had joined the *Endeavour* at Batavia and had been willing to accompany Cook on his second voyage, so greatly appreciated the charms of the enchanted island, the hospitality of its inhabitants, and the favours of the women, that he resolved to remain there. Knowing well that he could not carry out his design while the ship was anchored in the bay, he waited till her departure. When the *Resolution* had left the verdant shores of Matavai, he leapt into the water and swam towards the shore, near which a canoe awaited him. The

Captain lowered a boat, and he was soon retaken. After having condemned him to a fortnight in the cells, Cook reflected upon the incident, and wrote in the Journal the following lines, which are stamped with profound humanity. "When I considered this man's situation in life, I did not think him so culpable, nor the resolution he had taken of staying here so extraordinary, as it may, at first, appear. He was an Irishman by birth, and had sailed in the Dutch Service. I picked him up at Batavia on my return from my former voyage, and he had been with me ever since. I never learnt that he had either friends or connexions to confine him to any particular part of the world. All nations were alike to him. Where, then, could such a man be more happy than at one of these isles? Where, in one of the finest climates in the world, he could enjoy not only the necessaries, but the luxuries of life, in ease and plenty. I know not if he might not have obtained my consent, if he had applied for it in proper time."

On May 15th the *Resolution* anchored in the harbour of Owharre in the island of Huaheine. Cook was immediately received by his friend, the aged Orea, who heaped a thousand tokens of his affection upon him.

The traditional thefts diversified the stay of the Englishmen. At the request of Orea, Cook made an expedition into the interior at the head of twenty-five men. This expedition was directed against a troop of bandits who had intended to pillage the

strangers. They could not be reached, but this warlike march inspired the inhabitants with a healthy dread. They offered Cook a quantity of provisions, without asking for anything in exchange.

Cook had brought from Tahiti a number of natives who wished to go as far as Ulietea. Among these was one of the prettiest of the Tahitian girls, who had begged the Captain to drop her at this island, where she wished to revisit her parents, whom she had left some years before to follow the man she loved. She was not afraid of their anger, for the moral code of the islanders was wide and indulgent. She landed at Huaheine dressed in the uniform of one of the *Resolution's* officers, and, thus forestalling certain feminine fashions, she made a sensation in the island. Her story flew from hut to hut, and the natives of Huaheine, who were born dramatists, improvised from this living romance a comedy to which they invited the Englishmen. The piece dealt with the adventures of a girl who fled from Tahiti with the strangers and returned to her own country, where she was heartily welcomed by her friends and relations. The poor woman watched this spectacle, of which she was the heroine, and, confronted by the scene of her own life, she wept bitterly.

When the *Resolution* was ready to leave Huaheine, the aged Orea was the last islander to leave the ship. Cook said to him as they parted: "Good-bye, good king. This is our last meeting. I shall not return to your hospitable island. I am going far, very far

away. Never shall we see one another again." The old man wept silently for a long time, then he replied to his friend: "Let your children come here and we will treat them well."

Cook then went to Ulietea, where Oreo, the chief who had always shown himself so prompt and faithful towards him, greeted him with all possible warmth. He begged the Captain to return to the island, but when the latter announced that he had no intention of revisiting the country again, a flood of tears flowed from Oreo's eyes. The grief of the chief communicated itself to his wife and daughter, and Cook, much disturbed by this triple outburst, was compelled to listen to a concert of lamentations on the part of this amiable and harmonious family.

At the moment when the ship was about to make sail, Oreo entreated his foreign friend to return to Ulietea at least once more. Seeing that Cook would give him no promise, he asked the name of the place where he would be buried. The Captain unhesitatingly told him that the place was called Stepney, the name of the parish in which he lived in London. Oreo begged Cook to repeat the name several times, so that he could pronounce it. When he could manage it fairly well, Oreo and all those present cried out: "Stepney Marai No Toote" (*Stepney, the burial-place of Cook*).

A native asked John Forster the same question while he was exploring the interior of the island.

The naturalist replied wisely that "a sailor could never tell the place where he would be buried."

Learning that Cook did not mean to return to these parts, Oedidea decided to stay in his own country. He left his travelling companions with profound grief, going from cabin to cabin to embrace everybody. "In short," said Cook, "I have not words to describe the anguish which appeared in this young man's breast, when he went away. He looked up at the ship, burst into tears, and then sunk down into the canoe. . . . He was a youth of good parts, and, like most of his countrymen, of a docile, gentle, and humane disposition."

On June 4th Cook left Ulietea, steering west and making for the Friendly Islands. He had spent six weeks in the Society Islands, and this delightful stay had swept away all bilious and scorbutic complaints. The ship was repaired and amply furnished with water and provisions. The sky was clear, the crew were happy, and even the two Forsters smiled.

CHAPTER VIII

THE FRIENDLY ISLANDS AND THE NEW HEBRIDES

In the course of his journey Cook sighted and even discovered several little islands. He decided to land on one of them, with the naturalists and a party of men. The natives unanimously displayed symptoms of violent hostility, and welcomed the Englishmen with stones and spears. Cook would have been wounded by a spear, which grazed his shoulder, if he had not had the presence of mind to duck. Making up his mind that no communication was possible with the warlike natives, he decided not to remain in this barbarous place, and set sail, but not before he had unfurled the British flag on the island, to which he gave the suggestive name of Savage Island.

Twenty days after his departure from Ulietea, Cook landed on one of the Friendly Islands which he had not had time to explore on his last journey to the archipelago discovered by Tasman. This island, which the Dutch navigators had called Rotterdam, and which the natives called Annamooka, was a paradise of greenery and flowers.

Breaths of exquisitely perfumed air greeted the travellers. Dream-birds sang in the great trees. Ducks swam on the mirror-like surface of a lake, in

which, in the deep blue of a gloriously clear sky, were reflected, like strange stars, the golden fruit of the orange-trees.

As at Tongatabou, the natives gathered on the shore, offering the strangers enormous shaddocks, coconuts and bread-fruit. Their commercial instincts were expressed by incoherent cries.

As soon as he had landed, Cook saw an old woman approach, accompanied by a really beautiful girl. The former made the Captain understand that she would be charmed if he would marry her daughter. In spite of Cook's refusal, she insisted, and as she could not persuade him to taste the delights of these exotic hymeneals, she overwhelmed him with abuse, and demanded, " what ever sort of man he could be."

Cook stolidly wrote in his Journal, " For the girl certainly did not want beauty; which, however, I could better withstand than the abuses of this worthy matron, and therefore hastened into the boat."

Patten, the *Resolution's* doctor, was the victim of an adventure which is worth describing. Having gone duck-shooting in the interior, he reached the shore after the boats had left. He therefore made a bargain with the owner of a canoe, who promised to take him on board the ship. At the moment when he stepped into the canoe a number of natives ran up. They hurled themselves upon him and seized his gun. Then they took nearly all the ducks which he had shot, and prevented him from leaving, sending away

the canoe. The unfortunate doctor climbed on to a rock, from whence he hoped to be seen by those in the ship, but the robbers, whose audacity was increasing, followed him and took away his cravat and handkerchief. They were beginning to take away his clothes, when Patten, who began to fear for his life, searched his pockets for a knife or something with which he could defend himself. He found nothing but a case of tooth-picks. He opened it and with a threatening gesture pointed it at his assailants. The latter, seeing that it was hollow, took it for some sort of fire-arm, and fell back. Suddenly a young woman of remarkable beauty detached herself from the crowd which had gathered on the beach to look on. Her long hair floated in ringlets on her breast, and her face had great sweetness and expression. She approached the doctor, who seemed overcome with weariness, and with a gracious gesture offered him a piece of shaddock. The bandits made off, and the girl sat down by the Englishman, whose name she asked and immediately adopted to ratify their pact of friendship.

In spite of several incidents, at the bottom of which was always theft, the five days which Cook and his companions spent at Annamooka were extremely pleasant. The islanders were as easy-going as those of the neighbouring islands, and Nature had poured her gifts upon this charming spot.

Sailing westwards, Cook discovered a little island

whose shores seemed covered with turtles, and from this circumstance he christened it Turtle Island.

On August 16th, Cook saw high land to the south-west. He had no doubt that this was the Southern Land of the Holy Ghost, discovered in 1606 by the Spanish navigator Quiros, who took it to be a continent. Bougainville, a century and a half later, corrected the error, and observed that this land was only a small island surrounded by many others. He gave the group the name of the Archipelago of the Great Cyclades.

Cook coasted along the islands of Aurora, Lepreux and Pentecost, and noticed their extraordinary fertility.

Having found a suitable harbour in the island of Malicolo, he anchored. The islanders approached the ship waving green branches. They were of surpassing ugliness. Their bodies, black as ebony, seemed deformed. Their arms and legs were long and skinny, and their faces were hideous, with a large flat nose, projecting cheek-bones and very low forehead. What struck them most when they came on board the *Resolution* were the mirrors, in which they contemplated their ugliness with the utmost delight.

These natives showed remarkable intelligence. They understood the signs and gestures of the Englishmen with surprising quickness, and repeated all the words they were taught with amazing accuracy.

An incident which might have had a tragic ending occurred shortly after the ship's arrival. A young

native who had been refused access to a boat bent his bow in order to kill the sailor who had charge with a poisoned arrow. Some of his companions prevented him from drawing. When Cook was told of what was happening, he appeared on deck and threatened the native, who had aimed afresh at the boat-keeper. Hearing the Captain's voice, the native pointed his arrow at him. Fortunately Cook was armed with a gun loaded with small shot. He fired at the native, who staggered, but once more bent his bow and prepared to launch his arrow. Cook fired again, which had the desired effect of putting the Indian and his companions to flight towards the shore.

After several warlike manifestations, peace was soon concluded. Cook, having landed with a small party, advanced alone towards a crowd of three or four hundred natives who were assembled on the shore, armed with spears and bows and arrows. He carried a branch in his hand. Seeing this, one of the chiefs laid down his bow and arrows, and, also taking a branch, went to meet the stranger, with whom he exchanged the emblems of peace.

It was impossible for the Englishmen to effect much barter with these people, for they attached no value to nails and other iron objects, nor even to trinkets. The only traffic which took place was an exchange of arrows for cloth. To the amazement of the Englishmen, the natives showed a scrupulous honesty throughout these transactions.

Having left Port Sandwich—which was the name he gave to the harbour in which he had anchored—Cook continued to explore the vicinity of the Archipelago of the Great Cyclades. He discovered a group of islands which he called Shepherd Islands, in honour of his friend Dr. Shepherd, Professor of Astronomy at Cambridge, and he saw several others. Navigation was very dangerous in these waters, sown with reefs, and the ship proceeded very slowly.

Nearly all the officers on board suddenly became seized with terrible pains which kept them in their bunks. The doctor diagnosed this as poisoning, and he was not mistaken. On the eve of the departure from Malicolo, two reddish fish, looking like big bream, had been caught on a line and served to the officers. For ten days those who had partaken of these fish were racked with pain and fever. Fortunately their lives were saved.

On August 4th Cook landed on the island of Erromango, where the natives, who seemed of a different race from those of Malicolo, showed themselves hostile and deceitful. Having made signs of friendship, they assailed the Englishmen with a hail of stones, lances, arrows and spears. Cook was compelled to retaliate, and ordered his men to fire. Two natives were killed and several injured.

Without making a stay in this savage place, Cook set sail for the neighbouring island, where he remained several days. This island, called Tanna by the inhabitants, was more hospitable than the rest. After

an unpleasant first attempt, the relations between the Englishmen and the natives became more cordial. In spite of this, barter was only carried out with difficulty, as the natives had no knowledge of iron. As for cloth, they had no use for it, since the warmth of the climate allowed them to dispense with clothes.

The islanders were of pleasing physique and remarkable agility. They confessed to Cook that they ate human flesh. The young women were pretty, the elder ones made up for their lost looks with quantities of bracelets and queer ornaments. The men of the country lacked gallantry towards the fair sex, for they left the hard work to the women and made them carry their loads. This idea of the servitude of women was ingrained in them to such an extent that they thought for the moment that the servant who carried John Forster's plants was of the female sex.

Cook and his companions were most forcibly struck by the incomparable splendour of the giant vegetation. Trees, plants and flowers all seemed enlarged beyond reason in this green island, whose volcanic soil was of amazing fertility. Nature, as though by some huge fantasy, had transplanted the Eden of the Bible to this corner of the ocean.

A volcano emitted clouds of fire and smoke, and each eruption was accompanied by formidable rumblings. Cook wished to explore the sides of it, but the natives opposed him. Being anxious to avoid bloodshed, he abandoned the idea.

After having taken in wood and water, Cook left

Tanna on August 20th, departing from this fairy island of heavy scents, warm springs and supernatural growth. He employed the rest of the month in exploring the islands in the vicinity and visited in detail the archipelago, which Quiros had thought to be a continent. Cook changed the name which Bougainville had given it, and explained the reason for this in his Journal. "They were next visited by M. de Bougainville in 1768; who, besides landing on the Isle of Lepers, did no more than discover that the land was not connected, but composed of islands, which he called the Great Cyclades. But, as, besides ascertaining the extent and situation of these islands, we added to them several new ones which were not known before, and explored the whole, I think we have obtained a right to name them; and shall in future distinguish them by the name of the New Hebrides."

CHAPTER IX

NEW CALEDONIA, THE SOUTH SEAS, AND THE RETURN

Cook, putting into execution the bold plan which he had conceived, proceeded southwards, meaning to find out whether there were not some unknown land in the vast expanse of sea which stretches between the New Hebrides and New Zealand. He was anxious to call for the third time in Queen Charlotte Sound, in order to refresh his crew and to take on board a fresh supply of wood and water before venturing for the last time into the South Seas.

On September 4th he discovered land, and having found a suitable harbour, he resolved to anchor and explore the country as far as he could.

Cook and his companions landed on a sandy and fertile coast, the soil of which was planted with sugar-cane, bananas and yams, and watered by little canals skilfully laid out. Clear streams descended from the surrounding mountains, and great pines of sombre green raised their heads towards the blue sky. Flowers perfumed the air. Farther off, however, the country seemed to be sterile and deserted.

The natives, robust and well-made, welcomed the newcomers with demonstrations of joy. They were the first Europeans they had seen. The women were

amiable, pleasing, and of a modesty rare in the Pacific islands. Cook was greatly pleased with the perfect honesty and extreme willingness of this people. Not being able to learn the native name of the island he had discovered, he called it New Caledonia.

Wishing to explore the coast, he did not stop in this alluring place, from which the astronomer Wales observed an eclipse of the sun, and steered southwards along the shore. Reefs rendered navigation very dangerous in this vicinity, and the ship only escaped, to use Cook's expression, "by a miracle of Providence."

He was obliged to give up trying to sail round the island, especially as the southern summer was approaching and a vast stretch of ocean remained for him to explore before taking the homeward route.

He resumed his course towards New Zealand, not without enriching the chart of the Pacific with several new islands. He was able to judge the extent of New Caledonia, which he found to be the biggest island in this ocean, after New Zealand. He discovered several little islands, as the Isle of Pines, to the southward of New Caledonia, remarkable for the quantity and quality of its trees; Botany Island, with innumerable plants; and Norfolk Island, uninhabited, but rich in pine trees, hemp and cabbage-palms, which furnished the travellers with an excellent meal.

At last, on October 18th, the *Resolution* anchored once more in Queen Charlotte Sound, in Vessel Harbour, Cook's usual anchorage.

Cook's first act was to go to the foot of the tree where he had buried the bottle for Captain Furneaux. He did not find it, and concluded that the *Adventure* had been to the harbour after the departure of the *Resolution*.

Cook visited the gardens which he had established, and found with regret that the New Zealanders had completely neglected them. In spite of this a few vegetables continued to thrive upon this wonderfully fertile soil.

It was some days before the Englishmen saw any natives, but when at last they arrived and recognised Captain Cook, they manifested extreme joy. They embraced their old acquaintances and rubbed their noses against theirs, following the custom of the country, and began to leap and dance with mad extravagance.

Cook learnt from them that the *Adventure* had indeed put into Queen Charlotte Sound, but that she had left several months before. Certain allusions and certain reticences on the part of the New Zealanders made him fear, however, that some misfortune had overtaken Captain Furneaux's men. He cunningly questioned the natives, but could learn nothing from them. It was only at the Cape of Good Hope that he heard the fatal truth.

The relations which Cook established with the New Zealanders in the course of this third visit were marked by cordial friendship. One of the chiefs, who was called Pedero and who was of high rank, presented

him with a stick of office. In return, Cook dressed him in one of his uniforms, which the native wore with as much pride as ease.

On November 10th, when the ship had been put into condition for the long voyage which she was to undertake and had been fully provisioned with water and victuals, Cook left New Zealand and entered once more the southern seas, in the attempt to solve finally the question of the southern continent.

Having no hope of finding land in the Pacific, Cook decided to steer straight for the Straits of Magellan, in order to coast round the southern shores of Tierra del Fuego round Cape Horn, as far as Lemaire Strait. He believed that an examination of this locality, still very imperfectly known, would be beneficial to both navigation and geography.

Putting his plan into execution, he arrived on December 17th in sight of the western coast of Tierra del Fuego, and three days later he anchored in a harbour on this island, which he called Christmas Bay.

During the five weeks which passed during the voyage from New Zealand, while he was in high southern latitudes, Cook recorded nothing remarkable.

The part of Tierra del Fuego upon which the Englishmen landed, though desolate and mountainous, was not completely barren. Enormous trees, the branches of which were inhabited by a large number

of birds, various flowers and large ferns covered the stony soil of the country.

On the little low islands which fringed the coast grew shrubs covered with red fruit, very pleasant to eat, and celery flourished abundantly. The rocks of these islands were covered with big mussels, "better than oysters." The sportsmen of the *Resolution* shot a fair number of the geese which frequented the place, and some sailors brought on board three hundred sea-swallows' eggs.

Thanks to these good things, the Christmas dinner was an excellent one. Cook remarked in his Journal that "the traditional geese were served roasted and boiled, as well as goose patties and many other dishes. We had still several bottles of Madeira, the only thing among our stores which was improved by the sea voyage. I do not believe that our friends in England kept Christmas as merrily as we did."

The Englishmen were visited by some Fuegians, of a different race from those which Cook had met when he visited Success Bay in the *Endeavour*. These were small, ugly and very thin, and were almost naked. They were indescribably filthy, and their smell nauseated even the most hardened of the sailors.

Cook doubled Cape Horn and entered the Atlantic. He surveyed the coast with as much accuracy as the bad weather permitted and then examined several little islands in the vicinity of Staten Island. On one of these a regular confederation of the most diverse

animals lived together in unity. Sea-lions mingled the harmony of their language with that of sea-bears, and penguins waddled about in company with great white birds. There was never a quarrel or a contest for ground or property among these peaceful creatures, which showed a good example to their human brothers. Eagles and vultures soared over this animal republic, of which they seemed the majestic guardians.

On leaving Staten Island, Cook steered south-east. After sighting two little frozen islands, which he named Willis Island and Bird Island, he reached on January 17th a great stretch of land, on which he disembarked. He thought at first that it was the mysterious southern continent, but he soon discovered that he was on an island. This frozen land presented a sinister aspect. The summits of its high and rocky mountains were lost in clouds. The valleys were deep in snow. There was not a tree or a shrub, only here and there a tuft of grass or a patch of moss. On landing on this desolate coast Cook unfurled the British flag, and took possession of it in the name of His Majesty George III. In honour of the King he called it South Georgia, though it was a double honour, to evoke in the name of this barren and desolate spot the name of the sovereign of England?

After this Cook continued his journey over the southern waters of the Atlantic. He discovered several little islands or groups of the South Sandwich Islands. In connection with his discovery of this land he explained his ideas upon the southern

continent in his Journal, "I concluded that what we had seen, which I named Sandwich Land, was either a group of islands, or else a part of the continent. For I firmly believe that there is a track of land near the pole which is the source of most of the ice that is spread over this vast Southern Ocean. I also think it probable that it extends farthest to the North opposite the Southern and Indian Oceans; because ice was always found by us farther to the North in these oceans than anywhere else, which I judge could not be, if there were not land to the South; I mean a land of considerable extent. . . . It is true, however, that the greatest part of this southern continent (supposing there is one) must lie within the polar circle, where the sea is so pestered with ice that the land is thereby inaccessible. The risque one runs in exploring a coast, in these unknown and icy seas, is so very great, that I can be bold enough to say that no man will ever venture farther than I have done: and that the lands which may lie to the South will never be explored. Thick fog, snow storms, intense cold, and every other thing that can render navigation dangerous, must be encountered; and these difficulties are greatly heightened by the inexpressibly horrid aspect of the country; a country doomed by Nature never once to feel the warmth of the sun's rays, but to lie buried in everlasting snow and ice. . . . After such an explanation as this, the reader must not expect to find me much farther to the South. It was, however, not for want of inclination, but for other reasons.

It would have been rashness in me to have risqued all that had been done during the voyage, in discovering and exploring a coast, which, when discovered and explored, would have answered no end whatever or have been of the least use, either to navigation or geography, or indeed to any other science."

Cook therefore decided to change his course, and he set sail for the parts where he might find Bouvet's land, for which he had already searched in vain at the beginning of his voyage. He discovered nothing further to prove to him the existence of Cape Circumcision. So, since the vessel had sustained much damage, stores were spoiling and provisions were getting low, Cook decided to proceed homewards.

On March 22nd he anchored in Table Bay. He found there a letter from Captain Furneaux, who had called there in the *Adventure* a year previously, on his way to England. In this letter Furneaux described to his chief what had happened since their separation, and informed him that one of his lieutenants and nine of his men had been massacred by the New Zealanders in the course of an expedition undertaken while the *Adventure* was lying in Queen Charlotte Sound.

After five weeks' rest at the Cape of Good Hope, Cook left for England, and after an uneventful voyage landed at Portsmouth with his valiant companions on July 30th, 1775.

He had been away three years and sixteen days, and had explored twenty thousand leagues of sea.

Although he had experienced the greatest extremes of climate and had sailed among the ice of the south and the sun of the tropics, he had only lost four men, of whom only one died of disease. This, perhaps, was his greatest triumph.

Cook thus reviewed in his Journal the results of his second voyage, "I had now made the circuit of the Southern Ocean in a high latitude, and traversed it in such a manner as to leave not the least room for the possibility of there being a continent, unless near the pole, and out of the reach of navigation. By twice visiting the tropical sea, I had not only settled the situation of some old discoveries, but made there many new ones, and left, I conceive, very little more to be done even in that part. Thus I flatter myself, that the intention of the voyage has, in every respect, been fully answered; . . ."

Captain Cook had once more deserved well of his country.

PART THREE

THE THIRD VOYAGE AND THE DEATH OF COOK

CHAPTER I

THE LAST STAY IN ENGLAND

Cook was welcomed in his own country as a hero. His name was in every mouth, and foreign countries acknowledged his fame. In France, Spain, Holland and Russia the great exploits of this able navigator were unrestrainedly praised. All humanity was proud of James Cook.

Official honours were not long in being bestowed. Cook was promoted to the rank of Captain and appointed one of the Captains of Greenwich Hospital, an important post which would enable him to live in comfort with his family in an agreeable residence.

He was now forty-eight, and for thirty-four years he had wandered over all the oceans of the world, gathering golden fruit unceasingly for his country and for science by his marvellous discoveries. England had the right to congratulate herself upon such a man.

On February 29th, 1776, the Royal Society unanimously elected to membership the former Whitby ship's boy, who was formally admitted on the following March 7th. On the same day, a paper by Cook was read on the methods which he had followed to

safeguard the health of his crew during his voyage round the world.

This paper earned him at the end of the year the Sir Godfrey Copley gold medal, the highest award given for the most useful paper which had been produced during the year concerning new experiments. The President of the Royal Society, Sir John Pringle, delivered a remarkable address on this occasion, in which he summed up the benefit to humanity conferred by Captain Cook.

"What experiments," he said, "could be more useful than those of which the object is the preservation of man's life? Where could any be found more successful than those with which we are now concerned? Here we do not see the fruitless power of empiricism, nor ingenious and fanciful theories of a theoretical nature, but a succinct and incontestable account of the means employed by Captain Cook, with the aid of divine providence, for making a three years' voyage, in all climates, without losing more than one single man out of a hundred and eighteen which he had on board. . . . If the Romans conferred the civic crown on him who saved a single citizen, what laurels are not due to the man who has saved so many, to him who perpetuates, in our transactions, the means which Great Britain must employ to safeguard, during the longest voyages, the health of her intrepid children, who, in exposing themselves to so many perils, contribute so nobly to her glory, her wealth and the continuance of her maritime power?"

When the President of the Royal Society called the name of Captain Cook to present him with the gold medal, there rose, amid frantic applause, a woman still young, slim and fair, to whom, trembling with emotion, the glorious recompense was given. Elizabeth Cook had come alone to take part in the apotheosis of her husband. He himself had already left to explore new seas.

Cook had for ever banished the chimera of a southern continent, or at all events that of an unknown land upon which could usefully be planted the English flag. There remained, however, another problem to be solved.

For two centuries several navigators, nearly all English, had sought for a shorter route between the Atlantic and the Pacific than the endless route round the Cape of Good Hope, the only one which till then joined the two oceans. If a practicable passage could be found in North America, in the neighbourhood of Hudson's Bay or Baffin Bay, commerce between England and Europe with the countries of the Far East, such as China and Japan, would be greatly facilitated.

A British Act of Parliament of 1745 promised an award of £20,000 to any vessel belonging to a subject of the King of England who should discover this passage. Ships of the Royal Navy could not claim this prize. This Act of Parliament stipulated, besides, that the passage must be found in Hudson's Bay. To remedy the injustice of the second clause and the

limitations of the third, Parliament passed a new Act in 1776, providing that " if any vessel, belonging to a subject of His Majesty or His Majesty himself, found a communication between the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean, in any direction, or parallel of the Northern Hemisphere below 52° of latitude, the owners of the vessel, if they were subjects of the King of England, or the captain, officers and crew, if the vessel were one of His Majesty's Ships, should receive, as a reward for this discovery, the sum of £20,000."

Until then all the expeditions which had been undertaken with the object of finding this passage on the eastern coast of North America had completely failed. Frobisher, in the sixteenth century, James, Fox and Wood in the seventeenth, and in the middle of the eighteenth Captains Middleton, Smith, Moore and Lord Mulgrave had tried in vain to discover the great means of union between the two oceans. In spite of the failure of these attempts, the English, the most persevering race of any, had never abandoned the idea of these explorations, the success of which seemed so important for their navy and trade.

Captain Cook's patron, Lord Sandwich, the First Lord of the Admiralty, had formed the plan of sending, after meticulous organisation, a new expedition in North American waters. One man occurred to him as its leader—Captain Cook, to the exclusion of all others. But he did not venture to suggest to the brave sailor that he should lead this dangerous adven-

ture. Cook had scarcely been home a few months. His duty was now to his wife and children. It would have been cruel to urge him to leave his family; and, besides, after the unheard-of suffering and privations of his last voyage, he had now an inalienable right to rest.

Lord Sandwich invited Cook to dinner one evening, in company with Sir Hugh Palliser and Mr. Stephens. The First Lord explained to Cook the plan he had formed, and said to him, "Captain Cook, you can give me a piece of good advice better than anybody. Who do you recommend me to put at the head of the new expedition?" Cook, who was sitting at table, stood up as though impelled by some irresistible force, and, with eyes burning with a mystic flame, instinctive and spontaneous, replied in a single word: "Myself!"

Lord Sandwich and Sir Hugh Palliser smiled at one another. This reply, which they had foreseen, fulfilled their secret wishes. Of himself Cook had accepted what they had not dared to offer him. England could rest content. Her finest sailor was once more about to watch over her glory.

When the King had approved Lord Sandwich's scheme, Captain Cook was officially appointed commander of the expedition, bearing the date February 10th, 1776.

At the end of the dinner, during which the reply which had bound him had sprung from his heart,

Cook had begged his two friends to keep his wife in ignorance of his new responsibilities for as long as possible. When Elizabeth learnt, some weeks later, that her husband, whom she thought had returned home for good, was once more to be taken from her by the insatiable ocean, she was sadly wounded. She had dreamed to have a home like other women, and to grow old gently by the side of the man who was her love and pride; and now the sea called her husband once again. She expected her sixth child. Three were dead, two sons remained to her. And now James Cook was to leave her alone.

Cook dried the tears of the wife he loved dearly. He spoke of his duty, of England, whom he wished to render greater, more powerful and more beautiful. Elizabeth regarded her husband with pride. She understood that the first duty of such a man was to his country, and, as her resolution was strong, she promised to complain no longer.

The British Government named the two vessels which were to take part in the new expedition. These were the *Resolution* and the *Discovery*. Cook had wished for the first to be chosen. He had proved her solidity and staunchness during his former voyage. As for the second, of the same type as the *Adventure*, she had been built at Whitby, like the *Endeavour*, the *Resolution* and the *Adventure*.

The *Resolution*, commanded by Cook, had the same number of officers, marines and sailors as on her last

voyage. The *Discovery* was equipped like the *Adventure*, with the exception that she carried no marines. Captain Clerke, who had been one of Cook's lieutenants on the *Resolution*, was appointed to command the *Discovery*.

The Royal Observatory resolved not to send an astronomer on board the *Resolution*. The astronomical and nautical instruments were put in charge of Captain Cook and King, his second lieutenant, who was to be employed with scientific observations. William Bayly, the astronomer who had accompanied Captain Furneaux in the *Adventure*, was appointed to the *Discovery*.

The natural history department was entrusted to Anderson, who had been one of the *Resolution's* surgeons during the second voyage, in the course of which he had revealed himself as an eminent naturalist and remarkable philologist. A famous painter, of the name of Webber, was commissioned to immortalise by his brush the memorable scenes of the expedition.

A large number of officers and men who had taken part in the second and even the first voyage begged Cook to secure their appointment by the Admiralty to one of the two ships. Nothing displayed better the worth of this leader than this absolute confidence on the part of his men and this ardent desire they had to accompany him in an expedition of which their previous experience made them realise the hardship and danger.

Lord Sandwich himself supervised the preparations

of the voyage. He saw that the best provisions which could be found were abundantly provided, and also all the antiscorbutic remedies which had kept the terrible malady so well in check. Nothing was neglected which would contribute to the health and hygiene of the crew.

Moreover, the British Government ordered that several sorts of useful animals should be put on board the *Resolution*, for the purpose of being landed at Tahiti and other Pacific islands which the travellers might visit. The animal population of the ship was thus increased by a bull, two cows and their calves, and several sheep. These domestic fauna were to be increased by new specimens from the Cape of Good Hope. Cook also received a quantity of garden seeds to sow in the fertile soil of tropical countries.

Never was expedition equipped with such meticulous care. On June 8th Lord Sandwich, Sir Hugh Palliser and all the other Lords of the Admiralty visited the vessels, which were anchored in the Thames. Cook entertained these illustrious personages to an official dinner on board the *Resolution*, at which was drank the health of the King, the glory of England, and the success of the great adventure.

These were Cook's instructions. As all previous navigators round the world had returned to Europe by the Cape of Good Hope, and since the object of the expedition was to render that long detour unnecessary, Cook was to endeavour to return to England by high northern latitudes, between America and Asia. Instead

of seeking, as had always been done hitherto, to sail from the Atlantic to the Pacific, Captain Cook was to try to enter the Atlantic from the Pacific. In order to carry out this plan, he was to " enter the Pacific, explore the chain of new islands which he had already seen in the neighbourhood of the Tropic of Capricorn, cross the Equator into the northern part of the ocean, and then follow the route which appeared to him most convenient for fixing several points useful geographically, for making discoveries and to reach the vicinity where he might think it possible to find a passage."

On July 12th the *Resolution* and *Discovery* left Plymouth Sound. Standing on deck, Cook watched the coasts of England disappear. His thoughts flew to his wife, his sons, his friends. Little by little the land sank, until the shores of his well-loved country were no more than a faint line merging with the sky upon the horizon. Cook kept his eyes upon them obstinately, as though he knew, with a presentiment of fate, that he would never see them again.

CHAPTER II

KERGUELEN AND VAN DIEMEN'S LAND

Cook's first stopping place was to be the Cape of Good Hope, but, being anxious to renew the store of forage for the animals on board, he resolved to touch at Teneriffe, the queen of the Canary Islands. On August 1st the two vessels anchored in the road-stead of Santa Cruz harbour. After the regulation visits to the Spanish Governor, the travellers were authorised to procure hay, some barrels of wine, and water. They bought, at a very moderate price, chickens, fruit and excellent vegetables. After this profitable relaxation Cook continued on his way under a tropical sun, calling at Port Praya, in the island of Santiago, just long enough to take in fresh water. He had hoped to find there Captain Clerke and his ship, of which he had lost sight, but, seeing no trace of the *Discovery*, he sailed southwards.

Cook was obliged to watch over his men very carefully to keep them from the sickness occasioned by the torrential rain of the tropics and the stifling heat which accompanied it. He compelled his men to dry their clothes, and had the 'tween-decks purified with fires and fumigations. Thanks to his care, he had the satisfaction of recording that he had six fewer

sick than he had had in passing the same latitude on his two previous voyages. This happy state of things was all the more surprising because the deck-planking had opened up with the heat, letting in a lot of water. All the sailors' hammocks were wet, and the officers' cabins were flooded with water. As soon as the rains had ceased, Cook had all the openings in the decks and the sides of the ship carefully caulked.

Having crossed the equator, Cook steered south-east and made for the eastern coast of Brazil, then, on October 18th, he arrived without incident at the Cape of Good Hope, where he anchored in Table Bay.

The Dutch Governor, Baron de Plattenburg, who had received him so well in 1772, welcomed him as warmly, and put everything that he might need at his disposal. The *Resolution* was put into condition to carry out her long cruise, and her animal population was increased by two bulls, two heifers, two colts, two mares, two rams, sheep, goats, rabbits and fowls. All this domestic menagerie was intended for New Zealand, Tahiti, the Pacific Islands and any other place where civilised animals might multiply. Somebody remarked that Cook's ship looked like Noah's Ark!

On November 10th the *Discovery* entered Table Bay. She had been prevented from arriving sooner by a terrible storm which had swept over the vicinity, the effects of which had been felt at the Cape.

On November 30th, when the two ships were fully equipped and furnished with provisions for two years,

Cook, who had given Clerke instructions in writing how to follow him should they be separated, set sail, and for the third time proceeded towards the Pacific.

The two ships steered south-east. Some days after leaving the Cape they found the water round them reddish, as though tinged with blood. Surprised at this abnormal colour, Cook had some of the water drawn in buckets, and on examining it under the microscope found that it was full of little red creatures of the shape of cray-fish.

As Cook entered the southern seas on his way to the coast of New Zealand, the cold became keener, although it was the heart of summer in this part of the world. The wind blew fiercely, and great waves assailed the ship on every side. Several goats and a few sheep could not resist the rigours of the climate, and, in spite of the care given to them, grew thin and died.

On December 12th Cook sighted land, and, drawing nearer, recognised that he had found the six islands which had been discovered in 1772 by the French navigators Marion du Fresne and Crozet. As these islands were not named on the chart, Cook called the two first Prince Edward Islands, and, in order to perpetuate the memory of the French Captains, gave the remaining four the names of Marion and Crozet Islands. The whole archipelago seemed absolutely bare. Not a tree was to be seen; only high mountains, their summits clothed in snow, stood up with arid slopes.

Cook's object after leaving these islands was to reach the land which had been discovered in 1772 by the Breton captain De Kerguelen-Tremarec.

The ships sailed through a thick fog which reminded the English of the fogs of London. They could only go very carefully, and the opacity of the fog was such that they could not see one another. They were compelled to fire guns in order to keep in touch. At last, on December 24th, the sky became clearer, and Cook saw several little islands surrounded by rocks, upon which he did not deem it prudent to land, especially as the fog began to come down again. He waited for a more promising lift, and soon the weather cleared and Cook saw land which he rightly supposed to be the land discovered by Kerguelen. He sailed along the southern coast, and discovered a safe and well-sheltered harbour, where he cast anchor on December 25th, Christmas Day, for which reason he called the harbour Christmas Harbour. He immediately lowered the boats and landed on the island to examine the facilities which were to be found there. Except for water, which ran plentifully in numberless little streams, there were no facilities. The interior of the island, which was absolutely barren, presented the wildest and saddest aspect imaginable. "Perhaps this is the same that Monsieur de Kerguelen called the Isle of Rendezvous; but I know nothing that can rendezvous at it, but fowls of the air; for it is certainly inaccessible to every other animal."

The only riches to be found on the island were

animal riches. The shore was covered with seals, penguins and albatrosses. The first, which were not accustomed to the gentle society of men, allowed themselves to be massacred without evincing the least fear or the least symptom of resistance. The Englishmen slaughtered great numbers of them, for the fat was of very great value.

On December 27th Cook granted his men a day of rest so that they might worthily celebrate the feast of Christmas. Several landed to explore the desolate island, and one of these brought the Captain a little bottle he had found hung to a rock by a piece of iron wire.

This bottle contained a piece of parchment bearing the following inscription :

LUDOVICO XV GALLIARUM
REGE ET D. DE BOYNES
REGI A SECRETIS AD RES
MARITIMAS ANNIS 1772 ET 1773.

At the back of this parchment, which proved that the French had been the first to land in the harbour, Cook, in order to leave a record of his visit, wrote these words

NAVES RESOLUTION ET
DISCOVERY
DE REGE MAGNÆ BRITANNIÆ
DECEMBRIS 1776.

He then replaced the parchment in the bottle, with a silver twopenny piece struck in 1772. Having covered the neck with lead, he placed the bottle next day on the top of a cairn which he erected for this purpose on a little hill, and so that this elevation should be seen by navigators calling in the bay, he planted the British flag on it.

On December 30th Cook left this melancholy land, where the inclemency of the weather had cost him the lives of several of his animals, and continued eastward. He sailed 300 leagues in the thickest of mists. The *Resolution* and *Discovery* seemed like two phantom ships sailing on an infernal sea in a world of nightmare.

At last the veil of fog was rent asunder. The sun appeared to the dazzled eyes of the travellers, who began to doubt the light of the sky. On January 24th they sighted Van Diemen's Land, and two days later they anchored in Adventure Bay.

Cook sent in search of wood, and himself landed later. While he watched the sailors cutting wood, he saw eight natives and a young boy coming towards him. They were without clothes or arms. Most of them had their beards, hair and even face, smeared with a sort of red grease. Their skin was of a beautiful black, as were their large soft eyes. Teeth of dazzling whiteness showed a line of light across their dusky faces.

Cook observed that one of the islanders carried a small stick pointed at one end, and he made him understand by signs that he wished to know the use of it. The Indian fetched a piece of wood which he drove into the ground, and going back about twenty paces, threw his stick at it several times without hitting the mark. Omai, the young Tahitian whom Captain Furneaux had taken to London, where he had been made so much of, and whom Cook had brought with him from England in order to repatriate him, wished to show these people, whom he regarded as poor savages, that his weapons were much superior to theirs. He took a gun, and, aiming at the mark, hit it at the first shot. The unhappy natives bolted for the woods in terror. It should be said that Van Diemen's Land or Tasmania had only twice been visited by Europeans when Cook landed there, for since Tasman had discovered it in 1642, only Captain Furneaux had touched at the island with the *Adventure* in 1773.

The terror which had seized the natives at Omai's shot was not, fortunately, transmitted to their compatriots, for on the next day about twenty of them approached the Englishmen without manifesting the least fear. Cook gave them some necklace beads and a medal, and this present was received by them with manifest satisfaction.

King, the second lieutenant of the *Resolution*, told the Captain that he had seen several women as black

and as scantily clad as the men, as well as some children, who had seemed to him quite pretty. Certain of the women carried a kangaroo skin on their backs, probably for the purpose of carrying their offspring.

Several English officers had addressed compliments and smiles to the women, and had offered them presents, which they had indignantly refused. An old man, a witness of this British gallantry, ordered the women and children to retire. Cook was much vexed by this conduct on the part of his officers, and expressed his displeasure in his Journal. "This conduct of Europeans amongst Savages, to their women, is highly blameable; as it creates a jealousy in their men, that may be attended with consequences fatal to the success of the common enterprize, and to the whole body of adventurers."

During the three days which he spent in Van Diemen's Land Cook had ample forage harvested for his animals, and, with Anderson the naturalist, abandoned himself to every kind of observation which might have a scientific utility. The district was not particularly fertile, and the natives seemed even more primitive than the Tierra del Fuegans. Indolent and stupid, they appeared to have no industry, and lived in the branches of the great trees.

Since they had no canoes, Cook concluded that they had reached the country by land and not by sea. He therefore thought, as had Captain Furneaux, that

Van Diemen's Land was only the southern prolongation of New Holland.

Having his mission to fulfil, Cook did not tarry in this vicinity, and he left Adventure Bay on January 30th. On February 12th he anchored in the familiar waters of Queen Charlotte Sound.

CHAPTER III

NEW ZEALAND AGAIN. FRESH DISCOVERIES

THE two ships had scarcely anchored before they were surrounded by a fleet of canoes. Cook recognised a large number of New Zealanders, but in spite of the marks of friendship which they heaped upon him, they refused to come on board. It was clear that they dreaded the vengeance of the great stranger chief who could not ignore the assassination of his countrymen. Cook assured them that he wished them no ill and was not thinking of punishing them. This promise produced its effect, and the Maoris lost their reserve. However, Cook, with a view to the protection of the men working on shore, had mounted a guard of ten men and had issued arms to all the workmen. It was the first time that he had taken such precautions, but he distrusted these savage natives, who, before Captain Furneaux's ten men, had, in 1772, in the Bay of Islands, massacred Captain Marion de Fresne and several of his men.

When the confidence of the Maoris had been regained, a large number of them established themselves close to the camp which the Englishmen had constructed on the shore of the Sound. These natives raised their huts with a rapidity and skill which

excited the admiration of Cook's sailors, and they commenced a trade with the latter in useful articles, bringing them fish and vegetables in great quantity.

Cook was anxious to elucidate, as far as possible, the circumstances in which the assassination of the *Adventure's* men had taken place. Captain Furneaux had known very little about it. He had sent a boat, manned by nine men and an officer named Rowe, to look for plants in the neighbourhood of Grass Cove. Since none of these men had returned, Furneaux sent an expedition to see what had become of them. Lieutenant Burney, who was the leader of this expedition, found the horribly mutilated remains of the ten men, remains which proved irrefutably that the Englishmen, having been massacred, had been eaten by the natives. This was all that was known. Captain Furneaux had found it impossible to ascertain the cause of the quarrel.

The security which the New Zealanders now felt, thanks to Cook's promise not to exact vengeance for the murder of his countrymen, soon had the effect of loosening the tongues of the natives. Cook went with a party to the scene of the massacre, and, through the medium of Omai, questioned the natives whom he found there, who, while protesting their own innocence, told him what had happened. The ten Englishmen were sitting on the grass quietly eating a meal, surrounded by several natives. Some of the latter stole some bread and fish. They were imme-

diately beaten by the sailors. The New Zealanders called for help to their compatriots in the woods, who joined them at once. A regular battle took place, and as the islanders were infinitely more numerous than their opponents, they rapidly overcame them.

Cook was not long in discovering the names of the assassins, whose chief, Kahoora, had killed with his own hand, it was said, Rowe, the English officer who commanded the *Adventure's* party.

Trusting to the Captain's word, Kahoora came several times to see him, to the indignation of Omai, who begged Cook to shoot the murderous chief. One day when Kahoora was on board the *Resolution*, Omai went up to Cook and said to him: "There is Kahoora, kill him!" As Cook refused to accede to the bloodthirsty request, Omai exclaimed reproachfully: "Why do you not kill him? You assure me that in England they hang the man who has killed another; this savage has killed ten, and you refuse to reward him with death! You know that many of his fellow-natives desire it, and you know that it would be just." Cook smiled at the eloquence and logic of Omai, whom he ordered to act as interpreter for Kahoora and ask him his reasons for massacring the ten Europeans. The New Zealand chief began to tremble, and refused to tell the tragic story until the Captain had several times assured him that he would not be punished. The story differed little from what Cook had already learnt. Kahoora said that he

had been in great danger himself during the fight, and that the officer, whom he had attacked, had defended himself with his sword.

After this confession, Kahoora displayed no further fear, and he even asked Webber the *Resolution's* artist, to paint his portrait. "I must confess," wrote Cook in his Journal, "I admired his courage, and was not a little pleased to observe the extent of the confidence he put in me. For he placed his whole safety in the declarations I had uniformly made to those who solicited his death, That I had always been a friend to them all, and would continue so, unless they gave me cause to act otherwise; that as to their inhuman treatment of our people, I should think no more of it, the transaction having happened long ago, and when I was not present; but that, if ever they made a second attempt of that kind, they might rest assured of feeling the weight of my resentment."

Omai had asked Cook's permission to carry to Tahiti a young New Zealander of eighteen, called Taweiharooa, the son of a chief who had died some time before. Cook consented, and the mother of the young native aristocrat came to bring her son on board the *Resolution*. The Captain had warned her that she would not see her child again, for the ship would not call again at New Zealand. The woman burst into floods of tears, and took leave of her son with noisy demonstrations of affection. When she returned next day for the final parting, she displayed

the most exuberant cheerfulness and went away without showing the least emotion.

Taweiharooa, in order to travel in conditions worthy of his birth, wished to take a young servant with him. He chose a child of ten, called Kokoa, who was brought on board by his father. The latter removed the few clothes which his son possessed and handed him over completely naked to Cook, who remarked in his Journal, "I believe that this native would have parted from his dog with less indifference."

During his stay Cook was visited by numerous tribes, one of which was totally unknown to him. It was composed of about thirty individuals, men, women and children, whose features were much finer than those of the other New Zealanders. The chief of this tribe had an open and cheery face, an unusual thing among these people. He displayed great attachment to the Englishmen.

Having passed ten peaceful days in Queen Charlotte Sound, and taken in all necessary provisions, Cook set sail, not before he had entrusted several animals to various New Zealand chiefs, who promised him not to kill them, as they had previously done.

As soon as the ships were out of sight of land, the two young Maoris became living fountains of tears. They never stopped weeping, and accompanied their tears with a homesick lament which they sang in praise of their country. Seasickness had something to do with their distress, for when the sea became

calmer their sadness diminished, and they gradually forgot their native land and their families, showing themselves " as much attached to their new friends as though they had been born in England."

On leaving New Zealand, Cook steered north-east. He proposed to make a regular circuit of tropical waters in order to examine any islands with which he might meet.

After sailing more than a month without sighting any land, Cook found, on March 29th, a little island of smiling aspect and apparently of great fertility. The islanders, who resembled the Tahitians, were collected on the shore. The lack of a convenient harbour prevented the two vessels anchoring, but Cook learnt from two natives who came on board in their canoe that the island was called Mangeea.

On March 31st he discovered another island, called Wateea, and there he landed a party which included Lieutenants Gore and Burney, the surgeon Anderson and Omai. The latter was surprised to meet three Tahitians who, twelve years previously, had embarked at Tahiti in a canoe with about twenty of their compatriots to go to Ulietea. A terrible storm had upset their craft, and all had been drowned with the exception of four, who had clung to the canoe and had drifted for several days, until they were seen by the inhabitants of this island. One of these Tahitians had been dead for several years. As for the remaining three, they were so happy in this charming country, covered with fertile plains and green hills, that they

refused the offer of the Englishmen to take them back to their own country.

The new-comers were the first Europeans who had landed on the island. They were therefore regarded by the islanders, very like the Tahitians, as truly strange creatures. A large crowd followed them. They even presented them with the spectacle of a dance, in which twenty young women, very good-looking, moved in perfect rhythm, and without changing from one place, their feet and particularly their fingers with exquisite grace and lightness.

The members of the party began to feel a certain uneasiness on noticing that attempts were being made to separate them in order to rob them more easily, and that the object of the islanders was to prevent them from returning to the ships. They owed their safety partly to the wonderful yarns spun by Omai, who told the inhabitants of Wateea that in England there were ships as big as their island, with guns which could kill more people than there were in Wateea. To add weight to his explanations, he took a cartridge, emptied out the powder and set fire to it. The explosion terrified the natives, who put no further obstacle in the way of the departure of the Englishmen.

The party had been unable to procure any provisions. However, some Indians boarded the ships, offering a pig, and also bananas and coconuts. They were insistent that they should be given a dog in exchange, and resolutely refused to accept anything else. Omai, with spontaneous generosity, offered the

dog which he had brought from London, to which he was greatly attached.

The islanders who visited the ships were greatly struck by the animals. They manifested great terror at the sight of the horses and cattle, but they were literally frozen with amazement when they perceived the sheep and goats, which they took to be birds.

From Wateea, Cook went to a little neighbouring island, called Otakootala. Lieutenant Gore landed with a few sailors and brought back a hundred coconuts for each ship and grass and young palm branches for the livestock. No islanders showed themselves, but, as a delicate attention, Gore left on the shore an axe and some nails as the price of what he had taken.

Leaving the shores of this little island, Cook steered for Hervey Island, which he had discovered three years previously, and which had seemed to him to be uninhabited. It was, this time, thickly populated by a race of Indians, who seemed to differ entirely from the natives of Wateea. The Hervey islanders, whose faces were coarse and brutal, showed hostile intentions, and very soon proved that they would have carried off the palm in any stealing contest. One of them secured, with the aid of a crooked stick, a sailor's jacket which was hung up on board ship. However, some barter was possible, and fish was exchanged for a few nails. Since Hervey Island did not afford a harbour suitable for his ships, Cook left it, and on April 14th arrived at Palmerston Island. His hopes were disappointed, for he had counted on finding in

these islands food for his men and forage for his animals, which were beginning to die of hunger. It was nearly two months since he had left New Zealand; his revictualling had been very scanty and provisions were running short. Happily Palmerston Island, though uninhabited, provided grass and young coco-nut trees which were a great help to the livestock. Cook landed there with a small party. The men killed a quantity of tropical birds with succulent flesh, and caught several fish, which the receding tide had left in holes on the coral reef which connected the nine or ten islets which enclosed Palmerston Island. Cook records in his Journal: "At one part of the reef, which looks into, or bounds, the lake that is within, there was a large bed of coral, almost even with the surface, which afforded, perhaps, one of the most enchanting prospects, that Nature has, any where, produced. Its base was fixed to the shore, but reached so far in, that it could not be seen; so that it seemed to be suspended in the water, which deepened so suddenly, that, at the distance of a few yards, there might be seven or eight fathoms. The sea was, at this time, quite unruffled, and the sun, shining bright, exposed the various sorts of coral, in the most beautiful order; . . . But the appearance of these was still inferior to that of the multitude of fishes, that glided gently along, seemingly with the most perfect security. The colours of the different sorts were the most beautiful that can be imagined; the yellow, blue, red, black, &c. far exceeding anything

that art can produce. Their various forms, also, contributed to increase the richness of this submarine grotto, which could not be surveyed without a pleasing transport, mixed, however, with regret, that a work, so stupendously elegant, should be concealed, in a place where mankind could seldom have the opportunity of rendering the praises justly due to so enchanting a scene."

On leaving Palmerston Island, where the beauties of Nature had made him almost lyrical, Cook set sail in a westerly direction, intending to put in at Annamooka, that pearl of the Friendly Islands which he had visited during his preceding voyage and of which he retained the most happy memories.

Having called at the island of Komango and seen innumerable little islets, Cook anchored on May 1st off the coast of Annamooka, in the same bay where he had stopped three years previously. He was reassured. Provisions were not going to fail him.

CHAPTER IV

ANNAMOOKA, HAAPAI, AND TONGATABU

THE season was by now too far advanced for Cook to think of undertaking this year the exploration of the western coast of North America in the search for a passage between the two oceans. He therefore resolved not to hurry his departure from the Friendly Islands, where he was certain to receive a warm welcome and to find abundance of the most varied food. He proposed, moreover, to undertake a detailed survey of this extraordinary archipelago, which included not less than a hundred and fifty-three islands.

The two ships were scarcely anchored at Annamocka before barter began, marked, as during the former voyage, by the most perfect friendliness.

When Cook had landed, he was the object of the most lively tokens of friendship on the part of Toobou, chief of Annamooka, and of Taipa, chief of the neighbouring island of Komango. The latter had formed an incredible affection for the English Captain, which evinced itself in an almost embarrassing attachment. He refused to leave him, and in order to be closer to him, even during the hours of sleep, he had

his house lifted on to the shoulders of his servants and carried to the side of Cook's tent, which had been pitched on the shore. As for Toobou, he took Cook into his dwelling, a pleasant habitation surrounded by a pretty grass-plot, on the green carpet of which the visitors wiped their feet before crossing the threshold of the modest palace.

Taipa introduced to Cook an important chief of Tongatabu, called Feenu. This chief was, according to Taipa, the sovereign lord of the hundred and fifty-three islands of the archipelago. The natives rendered him the highest honours and prostrated themselves as he passed, touching his feet with the backs of their hands. Feenu was tall and thin, with a truly royal appearance and calm. Cook remarked in his Journal that he had never met, among the islanders of Oceania, a face which so greatly resembled that of an European. Cook received him on board the *Resolution* and invited him to a state dinner. Among the native chiefs who accompanied Feenu, Taipa alone had the right of sitting at the King's table. This exclusiveness was welcome to Cook, for every day his table was crowded with coloured guests, who seemed to appreciate the European meal and who needed no urging to accept the invitations of the *Resolution's* captain, who experienced much trouble in finding places for his numerous messmates.

As the women of these parts were not, as at Tahiti, deprived of the right of sitting at the same table as men, they followed their husbands without the least

ceremony, and came to swell agreeably the ranks of the guests, to the utter despair of the ship's cooks.

In spite of all the courtesy, friendship and even generosity of the natives, thefts increased, even on the part of the chiefs. One day one of them was discovered carrying off under the cloth which served him as clothing the winch of the machine with which wire ropes were twisted. Cook sentenced him to two lashes, and kept him prisoner until he had purchased his liberty at the price of a pig. This example had its effect, and respect for the property of others was observed by the upper classes. It was not the same, alas! among the islanders of inferior station. Lashes left them impenitent, and they took their punishment with the most perfect indifference.

Clerke, the Captain of the *Discovery*, had a bright idea for putting an end to the light-fingered habits of the islanders. He delivered the thieves into the hands of the barber, who cut off all their hair. Ridicule kills, even among savages, and the culprits, on their return to their companions, shorn of their locks, were the object of pitiless derision, which cured them of the desire to resume their exploits. Besides, the Englishmen had no difficulty in recognising them, and forbade them approach to the ships or tents.

By Feenu's advice Cook went with his ships to visit a group of islands situated to the north-east of Annamooka, to which the natives gave the name of Haapai. No European had yet landed on these islands, where

Cook, who was accompanied by Feenu and the inevitable Taipa, received from the chief Earoupa the most friendly and generous welcome.

Earoupa organised in honour of his guests a magnificent fête, the programme of which included dances, vocal and instrumental music, contests, fighting with spears and boxing matches. "But what struck us with most surprise," wrote Cook in his Journal, "was to see a couple of lusty wenches step forth, and begin boxing, without the least ceremony, and with as much art as the men. This contest, however, did not last above half a minute, before one of them gave it up. The conquering heroine received the same applause from the spectators which they bestowed upon the successful combatants of the other sex. We expressed some dislike at this part of the entertainment; which, however, did not prevent two other females from entering the lists. They seemed to be girls of spirit, and would certainly have given each other a good drubbing, if two old women had not interposed to part them. All these combats were exhibited in the midst of, at least, three thousand people; and were conducted with the greatest good humour on all sides; though some of the champions, women as well as men, received blows, which, doubtless, they must have felt for some time after. . . . In order to give them a more favourable opinion of English amusements, and to leave their minds fully impressed with the deepest sense of our superior attainments, I directed some fireworks to be got

ready; and, after it was dark, played them off in the presence of Feenou, the other Chiefs, and a vast concourse of their people. Some of the preparations we found damaged; but others of them were in excellent order, and succeeded so perfectly, as to answer the end I had in view. Our water and sky-rockets, in particular, pleased and astonished them beyond all conception; and the scale was now turned in our favour."

Cook explored the interior of this little archipelago, formed of four islands, two of which were connected by a coral reef which dried at low water. The plantations in these islands were very well kept, and the soil seemed wonderfully fertile. Cook therefore sowed there some European seeds.

While Cook stayed at Haapai, he saw one day a large sailing canoe approaching the *Resolution*. The islanders on board this craft told him that it contained Pulaho, King of Tongatabu and of all the islands of the Friendly group. Cook was surprised at this news, for Taipa and many other chiefs had told him that this title belonged to Feenu. The latter, who was profoundly embarrassed, confessed his deceit later, and acknowledged that although he was a very powerful chief, the royal dignity certainly belonged to Pulaho. Cook understood that the game of bluff was not the sole prerogative of Europeans. He received Pulaho with all the pomp reserved for great chiefs. "I welcomed him on board," he wrote humorously in his Journal, "with all the more pleasure, since he brought

me two pigs. He was extremely fat. If rank and authority are proportionate among the natives to size of body, he was certainly the principal chief we had yet met. Very corpulent, in spite of his short stature, he looked like a big barrel. He seemed about forty. His hair was smooth and his features differed greatly from those of the people. I found him intelligent, grave and sedate. He examined, with singular attention, the ship and the things which were new to him, and asked me several sensible questions. He asked me, for example, what had caused us to put in here."

Cook overwhelmed Pulaho with various presents, which the latter generously reciprocated. A genuine friendship was established between the two men, and Pulaho invited Cook to come to Tongatabu, the capital of all the islands. The latter accepted, and after very dangerous navigation, in the course of which both vessels touched, without damage, on coral reefs, the *Resolution* and *Discovery* anchored on June 10th at Tongatabu.

Pulaho was on the shore to welcome his guest. He led him himself into a little house, clean and hospitable, which he put at his disposal during his stay in the island. This house stood on the edge of a wood, facing a large prairie. The neighbourhood was cool and refreshing.

The arrival of the English at Tongatabu was followed by fêtes and spectacles very like those which they had witnessed at Haapai. The extreme friendli-

ness of the natives seemed unable to exclude from among them the passion for thieving rooted in the heart of their neighbours. The islanders of Tongatabu were very sociable, and liked to make frequent visits to the ships and tents, and the disappearance of some object was noticed after each of these visits. One day Cook gave several animals to the King and to various chiefs. His generosity caused jealousy, and next day several natives, thinking probably that the English Captain had forgotten them, helped themselves. A goat and two turkey cocks disappeared. Cook, determined to recover them, resolved to employ strong measures. He began by seizing three canoes which had come near the *Resolution*. Then he landed, and having met the King, his brother, Feenu and some other chiefs in the house which he occupied, surrounded the dwelling with a cordon of marines. He declared to these high native dignitaries that he would hold them prisoners until there had been returned to him not only the goat and the turkeys, but everything that had been taken since his arrival in the island. This energetic action on the part of Cook was most successful. The greater part of the stolen goods were immediately returned, and, upon an assurance that all the rest should be promptly brought back, Cook set the chiefs at liberty.

During the month that the Englishmen remained at Tongatabu they were able to study thoroughly the customs of the islanders and to attend several curious ceremonies. They had leisure to admire the industry

of these natives in the manufacture of cloth, in building and in their way of cultivating the ground. In spite of their irresistible tendency to theft, the inhabitants of Tongatabu, as well as those of the other Friendly Islands, were as a race amiable, hard-working, intelligent, clean, generous, and extremely sociable.

Cook had no cause to regret the three months which he passed in this fertile and hospitable archipelago, where, overwhelmed with provisions, he could economise those of his ships.

After a short stay at the island of Middelburg, called Eooa by the natives, which he had already visited during his second voyage, Cook steered for the green spot so dear to his heart, and on August 12th he reached for the fourth time Tahiti, the queen of the Pacific.

CHAPTER V

THE SOCIETY ISLANDS

Cook anchored first in Oheitepeha Bay, proposing to provide himself with provisions in this part of the island before going on to Matavai. He met with the warm welcome which he expected. As for Omai, he was at first received by his countrymen with perfect indifference. It was not until he had overwhelmed them with red feathers and other presents that they showed him any sort of friendship. However, his sister displayed profound joy at seeing him again, and embraced him in so touching a way that Cook was sincerely moved. Omai also found one of his aunts who seemed to possess family feeling of the highest order. As soon as she set eyes on her nephew she threw herself at his feet, which she bathed with tears.

Omai, who was of low extraction, might have raised himself considerably in the social scale of Tahiti and become an intimate of the great chiefs, but, unfortunately, he consorted with all the rogues on the island, letting himself be duped by the rogues to whom it pleased him to brag, and he thus lost the esteem of the King and other high personages.

Cook learnt from the natives that two Spanish vessels had twice entered the Oheitepeha Bay and that they had left some domestic animals in the country.

A Tahitian chief told Cook that the Spanish captain had given instructions to the islanders to prevent the Englishmen landing should they return to the island. The latter found a cross, which proved, in fact, that the Spaniards wished to assume possession of the country. On the cross was the following inscription

CHRISTUS VINCIT
CAROLUS III. IMPERAT 1774.

Cook did not lose the opportunity of recording the memory of the first voyages of the English to Tahiti, and carved on the other side of the cross

GEORGIUS TERTIUS REX
ANNIS 1767
1769, 1773, 1774 ET 1777.

While he was in Oheitepeha Bay, Cook proceeded to regulate the very important question of the issue of rum to his crew. Knowing that at Tahiti and the neighbouring islands there was abundance of coconuts, a fruit from which an excellent drink can be obtained, he intended to restrict as far as possible the consumption of alcohol. In formally suppressing the favourite drink of his men, he risked provoking among them discontent which might lead to mutiny. He therefore assembled his sailors, and explained to them the object of the voyage and the extent of the operations which still remained. He recalled to them the reward offered by Parliament to subjects of His Britannic Majesty who should discover a northern

passage between the two oceans. He made them see that the way was still long and that they would suffer terribly if it was necessary to reduce their rum ration in the cold climate of the northern seas. "For these very substantial reasons," he says in his Journal, "I submitted to them, whether it would not be better to be prudent in time, and rather than to run the risk of having no spirits left, when such a cordial would be most wanted, to consent to be without their grog now, when we had so excellent a liquor as that of cocoa-nuts to substitute in its place; but that, after all, I left the determination entirely to their own choice. I had the satisfaction to find, that this proposal did not remain a single moment under consideration; being unanimously approved of, immediately, without any objection. I ordered Captain Clerke to make the same proposal to his people; which they also agreed to. Accordingly, we stopped serving grog, except on Saturday nights; when the companies of both ships had full allowance of it, that they might drink the healths of their female friends in England; lest these, among the pretty girls of Otaheite, should be wholly forgotten."

After a stay of twelve days at Oheitepeha, the two vessels went on to Matavai, where Otoo, the King of the island, Towha, the high admiral, and all Cook's old friends received him and his companions as amiably as possible. Cook took care to distribute to the King and the chiefs the greater part of the animals and fowls which he had on board, which was a cause

of great relief to him, for the upkeep of the animals had been a constant worry to him since his departure from the Cape.

One day, Cook and Captain Clerke took it into their heads to ride on horseback round the plain of Matavai. Cook says in his Journal, " Captain Clerke and I, mounted on horseback, took a ride round the plain of Matavai, to the very great surprise of a great train of people who attended on the occasion, gazing upon us with as much astonishment as if we had been centaurs. . . . What Captain Clerke and I began, was, after this, repeated every day, while we staid, by one or another of our people. And yet the curiosity of the natives continued still unabated. They were exceedingly delighted with these animals, after they had seen the use that was made of them; and, as far as I could judge, they conveyed to them a better idea of the greatness of other nations, than all the other novelties, put together, that their European visitors had carried amongst them."

Otoo, anxious to entertain the Englishmen, invited them to dramatic pieces interspersed with dances ravishingly executed by the flower of the Tahitian aristocracy. Cook himself was charmed by the music, the dances and the incomparable grace of the pretty dancers. In return he gave a firework display, which seemed so supernatural to the natives that a great number of them fled in panic.

The extreme sympathy which he felt for the people

was distinctly cooled when he saw with his own eyes that the Tahitians were given to the horrible practice of human sacrifice.

The inhabitants of Tahiti had declared war upon those of the neighbouring island of Emeo. Otoo and all the principal chiefs begged Cook to lend them his powerful help. The latter, to the great disappointment of Towha, refused point-blank, saying that he had no right to attack people who had not offended him.

It was before leaving for this warlike expedition that a horrible sacrifice was offered to the god Ooro, one of the native divinities. The bloodthirsty ceremony took place in the *morai* or cemetery, under the superintendance of Otoo, with a great gathering of priests, chiefs and people. Cook and several of his companions were present. The victim was a man of ripe age and of the lowest class. He had been killed before the sacrifice, in the course of which the priests cut up his head in the most revolting manner.

Cook could never learn whether this unhappy islander had committed some crime deserving of death. An inquiry which he undertook into these savage customs which were practised in all the Society Islands, as in the Friendly Islands, convinced him that usually the victim was chosen from the criminals or from among the dregs of the people. Those condemned to death were killed suddenly, without previous warning. These sacrifices were frequent,

and Cook himself counted forty-nine human skulls hung up in the *morai*, most of which belonged to victims recently offered.

Revolted by what he had seen, Cook asked Omai to tell Otoo that "if he, Otoo, had been in England, and had killed a man as he had just done in Tahiti, his royal dignity would not have prevented him dying by the rope."

Apart from the nightmare which the horrible spectacle they had seen had been for the Englishmen, nothing happened to disturb the serenity of their relations with the Tahitians, who showed themselves more hospitable than ever.

Cook suffered for some time from sciatica, which caused him acute pain. Learning of the illness of the great "Toote"—as he was thus called by the natives—a whole cortège of women came on board the *Resolution* with the object of curing the illustrious invalid. Among these nurses were the mother and the three sisters of Otoo. Cook was at first alarmed at seeing the procession of native lady doctors, but at their affectionate insistence he submitted to their treatment, not without commending his soul to God. The twelve women made him lie down among them. Then they rubbed him with their hands from head to foot, and above all on the affected side, until his bones seemed broken and his flesh completely pulped. This first massage, which lasted for a quarter of an hour, so much diminished the pain that Cook allowed it to be done a second time before he went to bed in the

evening. On the next day two bouts of massage took place under the same conditions, after which the pain disappeared as if by magic and Cook became more active than he had ever been.

On September 30th, after five weeks at Tahiti, the two ships anchored at Emeo, which, after a few skirmishes, had just made peace with its rival. The eleven days which the Englishmen passed in this island were filled with disagreeable incidents, caused by thefts. A goat had been taken and was recovered with difficulty. Another goat having disappeared, Cook, whose patience was at an end, employed the most energetic means to secure its restitution. He set fire to five or six huts and a great number of war canoes. He then sent a message to Maheine, the chief of Emeo, to the effect that he would not leave a single canoe on the island if the goat was not immediately returned. The threat produced the desired effect, for the goat was brought back at once.

On leaving Emeo, Cook went to the island of Huaheine, where Omai had decided to settle, and where he found a brother, a sister and a brother-in-law. Cook himself presided with touching solicitude over his settlement. He secured land for his young friend, whom he overwhelmed with presents, and to whom he gave a horse, a mare, a goat and a sow with young, and two little pigs. He had a house built for him by the ships' carpenters, and a garden dug by some of the crew, who planted in it stocks of vines,

pineapples and melons, and sowed there several vegetable and fruit seeds. Cook left with Omai the two young New Zealanders whom he had on board, and who parted from the Englishmen with profound despair. Then, as he feared that Omai's wealth might excite the envy of the inhabitants of Huaheine, who were quite capable of despoiling him after his departure, he told them that he intended to return to the island after a short absence, and that if, on his return, he did not find Omai in the same state in which he had left him, all those who had interfered with him would be severely punished.

The natives of Huaheine had a profound respect for the English Captain, who, during his stay, had shown cruel severity towards a thief, whose hair and beard he had cut off, and, after that, his ears. Cook's justice was becoming bloodthirsty.

On November 2nd Omai said a last farewell to his friends. He took leave of the men and officers in the most affectionate way, striving to restrain his tears. When he came to Cook, his courage failed him and he began to sob. Cook on his side was profoundly moved at leaving for good the young Tahitian who had always shown himself so faithful and full of gratitude, and whose services had so often been of the greatest benefit to the travellers. Cook thought that Omai, having lived in London amid the cream of London society, would be a precious ambassador with his own countrymen. He could describe the splendours of London and make the great island of Europe,

where he had been so happy, loved in this corner of the ocean. That, certainly, was not to be undervalued.

Cook, continuing his visits to the islands of the Society group, went to Ulietea, where his old friend Oreo, the chief of the island, loaded him, as he was wont, with marks of the sincerest friendship. Unfortunately this last stay of the Englishmen at Ulietea, where they remained five weeks, was marred by three desertions.

In the night of November 12th and 13th, John Harrison, a private of marines, who was posted as sentry before the tents, ran away. For two days Cook himself went in search of him. He found him at last, seated between two women, who wept and asked for his pardon. Cook was pitiless and had the man taken back on board. There, Harrison being contrite, he pronounced a light sentence.

Some days after this incident Cook was informed by Captain Clerke that a midshipman and a sailor of the *Discovery* were missing at roll-call. Their desertion was not in doubt, for the midshipman had several times declared that the dream of his life was to end his days among the delights of these marvellous islands, where the sky was infinitely brighter than in England and existence easier than in the British Navy. As several men in both crews had expressed similar wishes, it was highly important to stifle these tendencies to desertion and to recover the two fugitives.

Cook, accompanied by Oreo, went with two armed boats to the island of Otaha, where he had been told that the deserters were to be found. On his arrival there he learnt that they had fled to the neighbouring island of Bolabola. Esteeming it useless to pursue them there, he resolved to put into execution a more efficacious plan. Profiting by the fact that Oreo, his son, his daughter and son-in-law had come on board the *Resolution*, he retained the three last and declared to Oreo that he would hold them as prisoners until the two English sailors should be brought back. In reply to the grief expressed by the chief, Cook told him that since he, Oreo, and several of his subjects had had the temerity to assist the escape of these two men, and thus sought to corrupt others, he was justified in acting thus. He added that he would leave him his liberty in order to allow him to help in the recovery of the fugitives. Once more the energetic action of Cook produced the desired results. Four days after their flight from the ship the two deserters were returned to the hands of Captain Clerke.

While these events were taking place the islanders had formed a conspiracy to carry off Cook at the hour when he had his bathe. He was in the habit of going alone and unarmed every evening to the banks of a little river, where he performed his ablutions. However, as soon as Oreo's family had been made prisoners, he had the prudence not to go out without being accompanied by a small armed party. This precaution

"Resolution" and "Discovery" at Anchor in Karakakooa Bay.
From a contemporary drawing by Thomas Edgar, Master of H.M.S. "Discovery."
(*By permission of the Admiralty.*)

would doubtless not have hindered the execution of the plot which had been fixed for November 26th, but on that particular evening Cook did not take his usual bathe.

On December 8th Cook called at Bolabola, where he only remained a short time.

The object of his visit was to secure on this island an anchor which Bougainville had lost at Tahiti, and which was in the possession of Opoony, King of Bolabola. The latter agreed to the transaction, and Cook received the coveted anchor, which he proposed to employ as an object of barter.

Cook profited by his stay at Bolabola to collect precious information as to this warlike island, which had subjugated, thanks to the superiority of its weapons, its two neighbours, Ulietea and Otaha. He left several animals at Bolabola, as he had done at all the islands of the Society group which he had visited.

But it was time for him to leave this delightful locality and to plunge into the unknown. The great work still lay before him. One evening Cook, alone in his cabin in the *Resolution*, reviewed the four months which he had just passed in these happy islands. He had, as far as had been possible to him, sown the benefits of civilisation in this corner of the Pacific. Had it been to the good? He reflected for a long time, then he opened his Journal, took his pen and wrote. "I own, I cannot avoid expressing it as my real opinion, that it would have been better for these poor people, never to have known our superiority in

the accommodations and arts that make life comfortable, than, after once knowing it, to be again left and abandoned to their original incapacity of improvement. Indeed, they cannot be restored to that happy mediocrity in which they lived before we discovered them, if the intercourse between us should be discontinued. It seems to me, that it has become, in a manner, incumbent on the Europeans to visit them once in three or four years, in order to supply them with those conveniencies which we have introduced among them and have given them a predilection for."

Cook, at the bottom of his heart, reproached himself with having come and brought them the equivocal benefits of civilisation.

CHAPTER VI

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS AND THE WESTERN COAST OF NORTH AMERICA

Cook steered northwards. He was entering into seas unknown to him. Having taken in a supply of turtles at a little, uninhabited island, which he called Christmas Island, he proceeded, and on January 19th, 1778, he saw three islands one after another. On the following day he landed on the biggest of them, called by the natives Atooi. The islanders, who spoke exactly the same language as the Tahitians, seemed also to have the same customs as the latter, whom they resembled in every respect in their thieving ways. They took everything that fell to their hands, without concealment, with a perfectly easy conscience, as if they were performing a perfectly natural action. The Englishmen made them understand that the property of others was worthy of some respect, and this lesson was not lost upon them. From that moment the islanders of Atooi displayed absolute honesty in their barter, which consisted of pigs and potatoes exchanged chiefly for nails. They were exceedingly polite and amiable. When Cook landed on the shore they fell with their faces on the ground, and remained there until they were made to understand that he wished them to rise.

Cook visited another of the islands which he had seen, and which the natives called Oneeheow. It differed very little from Atooi, perhaps a little less fertile, but covered with delicate flowers which spread a delightful perfume. Its inhabitants had exactly the same customs as their neighbours. These people were cannibals, and an old man, whom the Englishmen asked if his countrymen ate human flesh, seemed astonished at being asked so simple a question. He answered that it was " excellent to eat."

Cook named this archipelago, of which he only knew five islands, the Sandwich Islands, in honour of the First Lord of the Admiralty, " his patron and his friend."

Having procured all necessary provisions and stores, he continued on his way northwards, and, after sailing for a month, he sighted the western coast of North America, that coast to which Francis Drake had given the name of New Albion.

On March 29th the two ships anchored in a bay which Cook christened " King George's Bay." The natives of this part of America showed remarkable aptitude for commerce. They came bringing the skins of wolves, bears, foxes, deer, wild cats, martens and sea-otters. They also brought furs, garments made of the bark of trees, and a number of things which testified to a marvellous ingenuity and skill. To the amazement of the Englishmen, a number of these savages offered for sale skulls and human hands, on

which the flesh still remained, and which seemed to have been roasted.

In exchange for their wares they asked at first for iron instruments, then, after a time, they would accept nothing but copper, to such an extent that by the time the ships left King George's Bay there was not a fragment of spare copper on board. "All the jackets had had their buttons removed, the desks were stripped of their fittings, saucepans, kettles, candlesticks and every other copper object had been traded."

The Americans were still more dexterous thieves than the Pacific islanders. Since they possessed iron tools well sharpened, they cut off all the fish-hooks which they found attached to lines, and all ropes at the end of which happened to be anything they coveted.

On the other hand, they watched jealously over the products of their country. They demanded payment from the Englishmen for the water, wood, and even grass which they took. Their cupidity was not always satisfied.

These people were not of agreeable physique. Their faces were flat, with low foreheads, small eyes and long hair. They were repulsively filthy. "Their colour we could never positively determine," wrote Cook in his Journal, "as their bodies were incrusted with paint and dirt; though, in particular cases, when these were well rubbed off, the whiteness of the skin appeared almost to equal that of Europeans.

Their children, whose skins had never been stained with paint, also equalled ours in whiteness."

Cook remained in King George's Bay for about a month, during which important repairs were effected in both ships. He took advantage of his stay to explore the interior and study the customs of the natives, who seemed, on the whole, peaceful, obliging and gentle. They lived on the always plentiful results of their fishing, and by hunting. The country was thickly wooded, abounding principally in enormous pines and white cypress.

The months which followed were employed by Cook in a detailed examination of the coast and islands of North America. He mapped it, made exact determinations of latitude and longitude, named capes and bays and sought in vain for the elusive passage. He took possession in the name of the King of England of districts which he reckoned to have been hitherto unexplored by Europeans, and left proofs of his visit in various places.

On several occasions he landed and came into contact with the inhabitants of the regions where he stopped. He observed strange customs, such as that of the Americans of Prince William Bay, who slit horizontally the under side of their lower lips. They could put their tongues through this opening, and seemed to have two mouths. The further northward he went the more he observed the likeness between

the inhabitants of these northern countries and the Esquimaux. A great number of these tribes were in touch with the Russians, who bought their furs.

Cook sailed through Bering Strait, and during part of July navigated the frozen waters of the Arctic Ocean. Before returning southwards, he visited the shores of Asia and America surrounding the Strait. On August 3rd, Anderson, surgeon and naturalist, died of a chest complaint from which he had suffered for a year. Cook felt keenly the loss of this amiable scientist and perfect gentleman.

As the summer was coming to an end and it was not advisable to remain any longer in these cold regions, Cook resolved to pass the winter in the Sandwich Islands, which he wished to explore more fully. His idea was to return to the north later, and to reach Kamchatka about May 1779.

On his way southward Cook landed on October 3rd on the island of Oonalashka, at the harbour of Samganoodha. He had already stopped at this island in July, and had received the warmest welcome. His first care was to overhaul the two ships. While the carpenters were thus engaged the men had permission to gather the mulberries and raspberries in which the island abounded. These fruits made a change from the insipid walrus-flesh which had figured on the menu during the last few weeks.

Six days after his arrival at Oonalashka, Cook and Captain Clerke each received a curious present, which

was brought them by a native of the island. It was a pie, made of rye meal and filled with salmon seasoned with a quantity of pepper. Each pie was accompanied by a letter of which nobody on board could read the writing. Supposing that this culinary gift came from some Russians in the neighbourhood, Cook instructed a marine corporal, a very intelligent young fellow, to find the mysterious donors. Four days later he returned with three Russians who were engaged in the fur trade and who lived not far away, at a harbour where they had their store-houses and a ship of thirty tons. On October 14th a Russian named Ismyloff arrived at Oonolashka. He was the principal personage among the surrounding islands. Ismyloff showed Cook two maps in manuscript, which included the Kurile Islands, the peninsula of Kamchatka, and all the discoveries made by the Russians to the east of Kamchatka.

These Russians were the first Europeans that the Englishmen had seen for two years. They therefore prepared a banquet for them, and, since all conversation was impossible owing to mutual ignorance of their respective languages, English and Russians became exceedingly friendly and drank many glasses of wine and rum to one another's healths.

When Ismyloff took leave of the English travellers, on October 21st, Cook entrusted him with a letter to the Lords of the British Admiralty. He enclosed with the letter a map of all the northern shores which he had visited. Ismyloff hoped to find, in the spring,

a chance of sending the despatch to Kamchatka or Okhotsk. The letter finally reached St. Petersburg, and from thence England. The Russian kept his promise, and Cook's precious news reached its destination without hindrance.

On November 26th Cook discovered land which he soon recognised as forming part of the Sandwich Islands, where he intended to pass the winter. He stayed some days on this island, called Mowa or Mavi by the natives. The latter proved very sociable, and the usual barter took place without difficulty.

On November 30th Cook perceived another island belonging to the same group, considerably larger than any of those he had seen in the Pacific, with the exception of New Zealand. For seven weeks he cruised around this island, called by its inhabitants Owhyhee or Hawaii. The natives often came on board in their canoes and were always ready to trade with the Englishmen. They offered sucking-pigs, bananas and sugar-cane. Cook remarked in his Journal: "I have never met a savage race so little mistrustful as these. They usually sent to the vessels the different articles which they had for sale; they came on board themselves later and held their market on the quarter-deck. The Tahitians, in spite of our frequent visits, had not so much confidence in us. It must further be observed, to the credit of the Hawaiian islanders, that they never once tried to cheat us or to steal from us."

On January 16th, 1779, Cook having perceived at dawn a bay on the shores of the island, sent one of his officers to reconnoitre it and resolved to anchor there. While the two ships were waiting for the return of the boat which had gone on to sound the depth of water in the harbour, a number of canoes, estimated by Cook at over a thousand, surrounded the vessels. The islanders were unarmed, and had come with the intention of bartering. One of them took the opportunity of stealing a boat's rudder, and several others who had come on board proved that honesty was certainly not a characteristic of this race.

At eleven o'clock in the morning the *Resolution* and *Discovery* anchored in the bay, which the natives called Karakaooka. The number of canoes increased, and the shore was covered with spectators. Hundreds of natives swam round the ships. "We could not but be struck with the singularity of this scene;" wrote Cook, "and perhaps there were few on board who now lamented our having failed in our endeavour to find a Northern passage homeward, last summer. To this disappointment, we owed our having it in our power to revisit the *Sandwich Islands*, and to enrich our voyage, with a discovery which, though the last, seemed, in many respects, to be the most important that had hitherto been made by Europeans, throughout the extent of the Pacific Ocean."

These words, full of enthusiasm and hope, were to be the last written by Captain Cook. This new land

in which his heart exulted, this island, heavy with the scent of flowers, which he was proud and happy to offer as a supreme jewel to the Crown of England, Hawaii, of which the name alone is a harmony, was destined to be fatal to the man who had discovered it.

CHAPTER VII

THE DEATH OF CAPTAIN COOK

In very remote times there lived in the island of Hawaii a god named Lono or Olono, who killed his wife in a fit of jealousy and who, frantic with despair after this murder, left the islands and ascended towards the unknown skies. Before leaving them, he said to his worshippers, "I shall return in the future to an island where are to be found coconuts, pigs and dogs."

The rumour had spread in the bay of Karakakooa and in the neighbouring villages of Kowrowa and Kakooa that Lono had returned, and that he had assumed the features of the strange chief who commanded the big ships. Cook was thus received on the island of Hawaii with divine honours.

Two native chiefs, Pareea and Kaneena, brought on board the *Resolution* a little old man, very thin and ugly, called Koah, who belonged to the order of priests. Koah approached Captain Cook with gestures of most profound respect. He threw over his shoulders a piece of red cloth which he had brought with him, and presented him with a little pig, which he held in his hands while he made a long speech.

Then he presented his offerings, and so ended his first ceremony of worship.

When Cook landed he was received by four men who carried wands decorated with dog's hair at one end, and who walked in front of him calling aloud a short sentence in which could be distinguished the name of Orono or Olono.

Koah led the Captain of the *Resolution* into the *morai*, a sacred spot which served the natives as cemetery or temple. There, after a ritual which consisted of chanting and prayers, Cook was clothed once more in the red cloth, symbolical of his divinity, and seated between two wooden idols. He was then offered a pig, bread, fruit and coconuts.

One of the priests chewed the kernel of a coconut, and, having wrapped it in a piece of cloth, he rubbed it on Cook's face, the back of his head, his hands and shoulders. Then Koah put in his mouth pieces of roast pork. Since this sacred food did not seem to Cook as fresh as it might have been, he refused it. Thereupon Koah, with perfect delicacy, chewed the pieces himself and offered them, ready masticated, to the lips of the reincarnated Lono, who, in spite of all his courage, could not face the divine sustenance.

Cook, who lent himself cheerfully to these strange rites, returned to the shore with the same ceremonial as on his journey to the *morai*; The Hawaiians prostrated themselves on the ground as he passed. The priests declared *Tabu*—that is to say, sacred—the little camp which the Englishman had set up on shore.

These native superstitions were manifested not only in useless parades and curious processions, but they had also a happy gastronomic result. Every day the priests sent Cook, without even asking for anything in return, pigs and vegetables in large quantities. When the Englishmen asked Koah who was the personage who treated their Captain so magnificently, he answered that it was Kaoo, the high priest, who was away travelling with the King.

As soon as Terreeoboo, King of Hawaii and the other islands, had returned from a visit which he had made to the island of Mani, he arrived with great pomp on board the *Resolution*. His train consisted of three canoes. He and his chiefs were installed in the first of these. All were clothed in rich robes, carried helmets and feathers on their heads, and were armed with long spears and daggers. The second canoe carried the priests and their chief, the venerable Kaoo. They brought with them gigantic idols bedizened with red cloth. Pigs and vegetables filled the third canoe. While the priests chanted hymns, the three canoes paddled round the ships and went back to the shore, without their illustrious passengers coming on board. Cook, seeing this, immediately had himself rowed to land, and the solemn interview took place in the tent.

The King threw his cloak over the Captain's shoulders and placed a helmet of feathers on his head. He offered him, besides, a curious fan and spread at his feet several sumptuous cloaks. The

members of the royal suite then brought four great pigs, sugar-cane, coconuts and bread fruit. The King terminated this bountiful part of the ceremony by changing names with Captain Cook, the highest possible token of friendship among the Pacific islanders. After that there was another series of prayers, terminated by the gift of other edible presents. The worship of the Hawaiians was certainly nourishing.

All these marks of religious respect which the islanders showed to Cook, and even to certain of his officers, such as Captain Clerke and Lieutenant King, did not prevent the commission of a great number of thefts. This was all the more surprising since in other parts of the island where the Englishmen had come into contact with the natives the latter had displayed the most scrupulous honesty. The inhabitants of the bay of Karakakooa showed unparalleled technique in the art of pilfering. Their most able swimmers came and extracted the nails from the planking of the sides of the ships. Punishment seemed of no avail. The chiefs themselves appeared to encourage the thieves, who frequently passed on to them the proceeds of their pilfering.

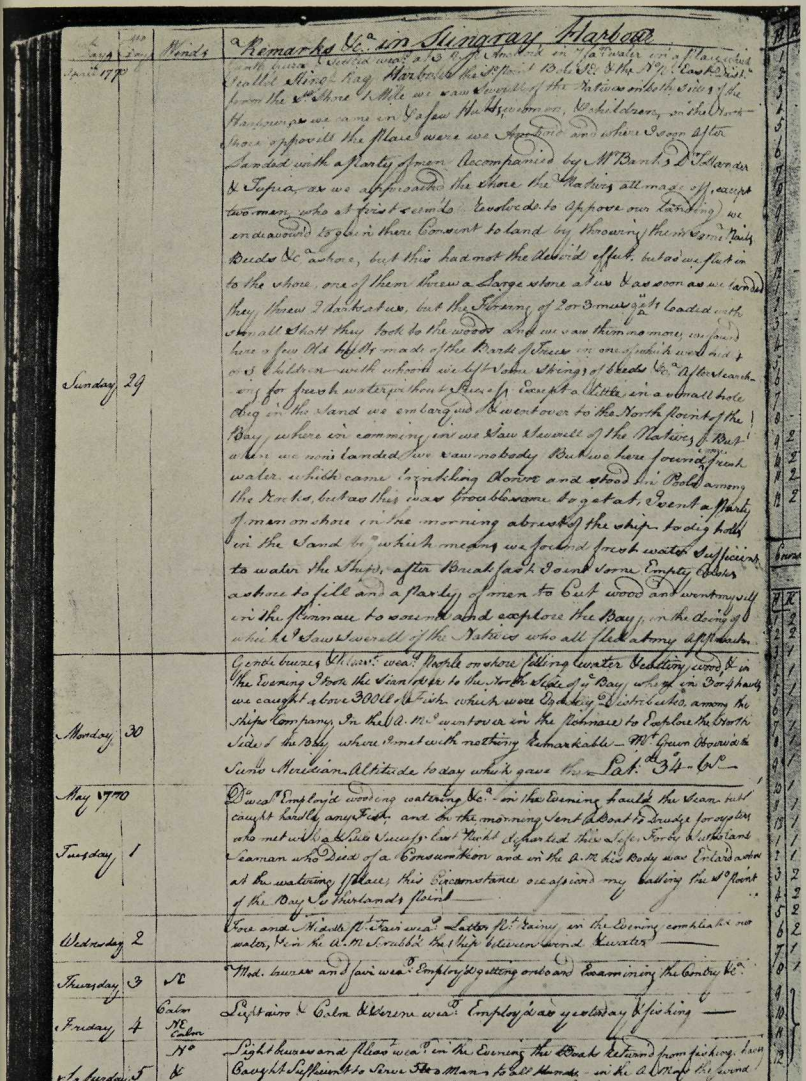
Two incidents seemed to produce a deceptive impression upon Cook's worshippers. The first was the death of a gunner's mate, who, at the request of the priests, was solemnly buried in the *morai*. As the natives had thought that the English were more or less supernatural and immortal beings, this mortal end of one of them could hardly fail to cause them an

unpleasant surprise. The other incident was due to Cook, who, requiring wood to burn on board the ships, ordered Lieutenant King to bargain with the priests for the fencing which surrounded the *morai* and had a sacred character. The latter raised no objection, but they could hardly consider the removal of the fence otherwise than an act of sacrilege.

After a time Terreeoboo and his retinue of chiefs began to ask the Englishmen frequently when they meant to go. They seemed uneasy at the formidable quantity of provisions which Cook's divinity was costing the country. Some of the islanders, seeing the Englishmen take on board every day, besides the daily offering of the priests, the pigs and vegetables which they had bought, said on one occasion to Lieutenant King that they supposed that he and his companions were natives of a famine-stricken country, and that they had only come to their island to "fill their bellies." They had, however, a particular friendship for Lieutenant King, whom they took to be Cook's son, and whom they begged to stay with them.

Before Cook left the bay of Karakakooa, on the morning of February 4th, he received from the King and the High Priest Kaoo a considerable number of presents, which consisted of provisions and magnificent stuffs. The usual marks of worship were added to the precious gifts.

It was Cook's intention to complete the survey of



PAGE FROM THE LOG BOOK OF "ENDEAVOUR," IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS, APRIL—MAY, 1770.
(*By permission of Mrs. Hudson.*)

the coast of Hawaii and then to visit the other islands of the archipelago.

Two days after their departure, the ships were struck by a storm, and the *Resolution's* topmast was sprung. Since there was no convenient harbour in the vicinity, Cook gave the order to go about and return to the bay of Karakakooa, where the damage could be repaired. On February 11th the two ships dropped anchor once more in the place which they had left seven days previously.

The Englishmen perceived, to their astonishment, that the islanders' feelings towards them had changed. There were no cries of joy, no welcoming and respectful crowd. An officer of the *Discovery* who landed with a party was received with a shower of stones. Insolent pilfering took place. One of the *Discovery's* boats was taken, and would have been destroyed but for the intervention of a chief, Pareea, who, however, seemed no longer to be inspired by friendly sentiments towards the strangers.

When Cook was informed of these incidents, he was greatly upset. In spite of the gratitude which he felt towards the natives, he was not at all inclined to act weakly, and he said to Lieutenant King, "I greatly fear that the islanders will force me to take stern measures, for it would never do to let them think that they had the advantage of us." As it was too late to do anything that evening, Cook contented himself with driving from the ship the men and women who were on board.

During the night the natives stole the *Discovery's* cutter by cutting adrift the buoy to which she was moored.

Cook, resolved at all costs to recover the cutter and to put an end to the intolerable conduct of the Hawaiians, determined to employ the means which had always succeeded, and which consisted in bringing on board and keeping as hostages the King or several of the principal chiefs. He also ordered that all canoes attempting to leave the bay should be stopped, having decided to destroy them if necessary, in order to force the islanders to give him back the stolen cutter.

On February 14th Cook landed with a party of nine marines under Lieutenant Phillips. He set out towards the village of Kowrowa, where the King lived. During his journey he was accorded the marks of respect to which he was accustomed. The natives prostrated themselves as he passed, and offered him little pigs.

Having arrived at the village, Cook met the King's two sons, who brought him to their father. Terreoboo accepted the invitation to come with his sons to spend the day on board the *Resolution*. Ignorant of the Captain's intentions, he rose at once to go down towards the shore, where his sons had already arrived and taken their places happily in the English boat. All at once Terreoboo's favourite wife—he had several —who was the mother of the two princes, approached the King and begged him tearfully not to go on

board the ship. At the same time two chiefs appeared, and, joining their prayers to those of the woman, forced Terreoboo to sit down. The islanders were present in crowds at this scene, and hustled round Cook and the King, who began to tremble with fright. Several times Cook persuaded him to come with him, and Terreoboo seemed to consent, but each time the woman and the two chiefs made him sit down again and prevented his leaving. Seeing that it would not be possible to carry off his hostage without bloodshed, Cook abandoned his project and went quietly back to the shore. While these events were taking place, the noise of several shots had been heard. The boats patrolling the bay had fired on the canoes endeavouring to leave the harbour. A rumour quickly spread that a chief of the first rank had been killed by the English.

This news provoked the crowd to the most lively excitement. The men sent away the women and children, clothed themselves in their war dress, and armed themselves with spears and stones. One of them, who carried a stone and a long iron knife called *pahooa*, went up to Cook, and, brandishing his weapon, made as though to throw the stone at him. Cook, with wonderful coolness, advised him to stop his threats, but as the insolence of the Hawaiian increased, he fired a shot-gun charge at him. The native was clothed in a mat which the shot did not penetrate. Seeing that he was not wounded, he became more threatening still. Then Cook fired the

other barrel of his gun, loaded with ball, and killed by mistake another native than the one who had insulted him. This death was the signal for the Hawaiians to make a general attack with stones. The marines and the sailors in the boats replied by a volley of musketry. The islanders received this fire with unbelievable firmness, and flung themselves on the English party with wild yells. It was a dreadful mêlée.

Four marines retired to the rocks and were massacred. Three others were severely wounded. Lieutenant Phillips was wounded between the shoulders with a *pahooa*, and his assailant was about to repeat the blow when Phillips, who had not yet fired, killed his aggressor with a bullet.

Meanwhile Cook had reached the edge of the shore. He faced the raging crowd alone. They dared not attack this fearless chief, who quelled them with his steely glance. A few paces away, the boats in the bay were firing on the natives. Suddenly Cook, with a gesture of admirable humanity, turned towards the boats and ordered his men to cease firing. This generous movement proved fatal to him. A Hawaiian warrior flung himself upon him, and struck him from behind with his knife. Cook staggered, flung up his arms, and fell face downwards into the sea.

Captain Cook was dead.

CHAPTER VIII

TRIBUTES PAID TO CAPTAIN COOK'S MEMORY

Cook's body had fallen into the hands of the natives, who flung themselves upon it with their knives. On the following day a Hawaiian chief brought on board the *Resolution*, of which Captain Clerke had taken command, part of Cook's remains, horribly mutilated, and, five days later, a parcel containing some of his bones was sent to the Englishmen.

On February 21st, at the time when the red sun sank gently into the waves, the *Resolution* half-masted her flags. Ten guns sounded, followed by a sinister noise. A hammock had been thrown into the sea. Captain Cook lay at the bottom of the ocean which he had so extensively explored.

On the decks of the ship, their heads bent, two hundred men wept.

After several blood-thirsty skirmishes in which several natives were killed and the English burned a village, the two mourning ships left the sinister spot where they had lost their leader. They proceeded to the coast of Kamchatka, where Captain Clerke died on August 22nd, from the effects of a chest complaint which he had contracted before he left England.

Captain Gore, who had commanded the *Discovery* since Cook's death, succeeded to the command of the *Resolution*, and Lieutenant King became captain of the *Discovery*. The two ships, leaving Kamchatka, coasted along the east side of Japan, called at Macao, passed through the Sunda Straits, stopped at the Cape of Good Hope, and reached the shores of England on the fourth of October 1780.

During this long voyage of four years and three months, five men, of whom three were already in bad health on their departure from Plymouth, died of illness on board the *Resolution*. Scurvy did not claim a single victim on board the *Discovery*.

England was filled with consternation at the news of Cook's death. When Lord Sandwich announced to George III that the famous navigator had not returned, the King could scarcely restrain his tears. He immediately directed that a pension of £200 a year should be awarded to his family, and that the right of bearing arms should be conferred upon them. The condolences of the whole nation were addressed to Elizabeth Cook, who was destined to outlive all her family. Of the three sons who remained, two died at sea and the third of illness.

The whole world shared England's sorrow. Captain Cook had earned unanimous respect and regrets. The Abbé Delille in an address celebrated at the time, wrote at the end of his *Poème des Jardins* :—

Brave Cook, qui, cher à tous les cœurs,
Unis par les regrets la France et l'Angleterre . . .
Hélas ! de quoi lui sert que deux fois son audace
Ait vu des cieux brûlants, fendu des mers de glace;
Que des peuples, des vents, des ondes révéré,
Seul, sur les vastes mers, son vaisseau fût sacré;
Que pour lui seul la guerre oubliât ses ravages ?
L'ami du monde, hélas ! meurt en proie aux sauvages.

The allusion of Delille to war was due to the fact that since Cook's departure for this third voyage the English colonies in America had risen against their motherland in the successful attempt to gain their independence. On February 6th, 1778, Vergennes, the minister of Louis XVI, ratified with Benjamin Franklin a treaty of alliance with the American insurgents, and in June 1779 Spain joined France in her struggle with England.

France had so great an admiration for the magnificent exploits of the English navigator, and such respect for his character and genius, that she had no desire that a man whom humanity honoured should be touched by the brutal hands of war. As always, she made a chivalrous gesture.

On March 9th, 1779, ignorant, as was the whole of Europe, of Cook's death, which only became known in January 1780, M. de Sartine, Minister of Marine, sent to all the commanders of the ships of His Most Christian Majesty King Louis XVI the following letter:

" Captain Cook, who left Plymouth in July 1776, on board the frigate *Resolution*, with the *Discovery*,

Captain Clerke, in company, in order to undertake discoveries on the coasts, islands and seas of Japan and California, should be on the point of returning to Europe. As such enterprises are of general utility to all nations, the will of the King is that Captain Cook should be treated as a commander of a neutral and allied power, and that all captains of armed ships who should meet this celebrated navigator should inform him of the orders of His Majesty concerning him, and, at the same time, inform him that he should himself refrain from any hostile action."

Benjamin Franklin, who was at Paris as Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of America, had forestalled this generous gesture of France towards the great English sailor. On March 10th 1779, he wrote this letter:

" To all captains and commanders of ships armed under Commission of Congress of the United States of America, now at war with Great Britain.

" Gentlemen, a vessel has been fitted out by England, before the beginning of this war, to discover new countries in unknown seas, under the leadership of the celebrated Captain Cook; and as this enterprise, truly praiseworthy in itself, may augment geographical knowledge, facilitate communication between distant nations for the exchange of foodstuffs and manufactures, which tend to the improvement of life, and finally, as this enterprise, I say, may

expand the progress of all sciences useful to the human race, I strongly desire that those of you who may meet Captain Cook's ship, which is now awaited in European waters, should not regard him as an enemy, and should not permit the material which he carries to be plundered, nor his direct return to England hindered. I depend upon you also to treat Captain Cook and his companion with civility and kindness, according to them, as to friends of the human race, all the help within your power. In acting thus, I am sure that you will not only be following the promptings of your own generosity, but that you will obtain the approbation of Congress and of all American ship-owners."

The noble attitude of the illustrious American philosopher was not approved by the members of Congress, who revoked Franklin's orders. Spain equally refused to follow the fine example of France. In spite of everything, the *Resolution* and *Discovery* were not to incur any hostility during their return journey.

After the tragic death of Captain Cook, Lieutenant King wrote in the log certain admirable pages in which he recalled, in a striking manner, the man who had been his leader and his friend. Of all the tributes offered to the memory of the great sailor, this remains the most beautiful, the most sincere, and the most true.

"Cook seemed to have been born for distant expeditions; his earliest habits of life, the experience acquired in his long voyages, the constant application of his mind, all concurred in giving him a degree of knowledge which perhaps is the lot of only a small number of officers.

"He was of robust constitution, hardened to toil and capable of supporting the greatest fatigues. His stomach digested without difficulty the coarsest and most disagreeable food. He submitted to privations of every kind with an indifference so perfect that moderation did not seem to be a virtue in him. His mind was of the same vigorous stamp as his body. His judgment in everything that concerned his mission was prompt and sure. His plans had boldness and energy. Their conception and execution revealed a very original genius. An admirable coolness in the face of danger always accompanied his calm and intrepid courage. His morals and his manners were frank and simple. His character, with a tendency to hastiness and anger, might perhaps have merited reproach if a deep fund of humanity and benevolence had not tempered the ardour of his first intentions.

"But the continued and indefatigable perseverance with which he carried out his plans and ideas was the most salient feature in his character. Neither danger nor fatigue could stop him, and he seemed to have no need of the moments of rest and distraction which are generally necessary in the lives of men. During his long and wearisome voyages, his ardour and

activity never abated for a moment. He was never diverted by the amusements which offered themselves to him.

" The services which he has rendered to geography and navigation are immense.

" There is perhaps no science which owes so much to the efforts of a single man as geography does to Captain Cook. In his first voyage to the South Seas he discovered the Society Islands; he proved that New Zealand consisted of two islands; he traversed the strait which separates them, and took the bearings of the whole coast; he followed the eastern coast of New Holland (Australia), unknown before his time, and he added to the maps of this part of the globe a stretch of land of more than 2000 miles.

" His second voyage round the world solved the great problem of the southern continent. He showed that there can be no such continent unless it lies near the pole and in regions inaccessible to ships. He discovered New Caledonia, the most extensive island in the Pacific after New Zealand. He also discovered South Georgia and a new coast which he called Sandwich Land. Having twice visited the tropical seas, he fixed the position of lands seen earlier by navigators, and found several which were unknown.

" But his third voyage is pre-eminently distinguished by the extent and importance of his discoveries. Apart from many little islands which he found in the South Pacific Ocean, he discovered, north of the Equator, the group called the Sandwich Islands, whose

position and resources promise more advantages to European navigation than any other lands of the South Seas. He subsequently discovered and surveyed the western part of America, which remained unknown beyond latitude 43° north—that is to say, a stretch of more than 3500 miles. He determined the nearness of the continent of Asia to that of America. He traversed the strait which separates them. He surveyed the lands on each coast to an extent sufficient to show that it is impossible to pass from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean either eastwards or westwards. Finally, if I except the Amur Sea and the Japanese archipelago, of which only imperfect details are available, he completed the hydrography of that part of the globe which is habitable.

"As a sailor, his services are not perhaps less brilliant, and they are certainly as important and useful. The means of preserving the health of crews, a means which he discovered and followed with so much success, forms a new epoch in the history of navigation, and future centuries will place him among the friends and benefactors of the human race.

"Those who know the history of the Navy know the price at which until now the advantages resulting from sea voyages have been obtained. The terrible malady which declares itself in the course of long voyages, the ravages of which have marked the steps of the men to whom we owe the discovery of new territories, would have become an insuperable obstacle to the execution of undertakings of this kind, without

a tyranny, impossible to justify, being imposed upon the life of the sailors. It was reserved for Captain Cook to show the whole world, after repeated trials, that there are means of prolonging sea voyages over three or four years, in unknown regions, in all climates, even the most severe, and that, not only without impairing the health of the crew, but even without diminishing in the least their expectancy of life.

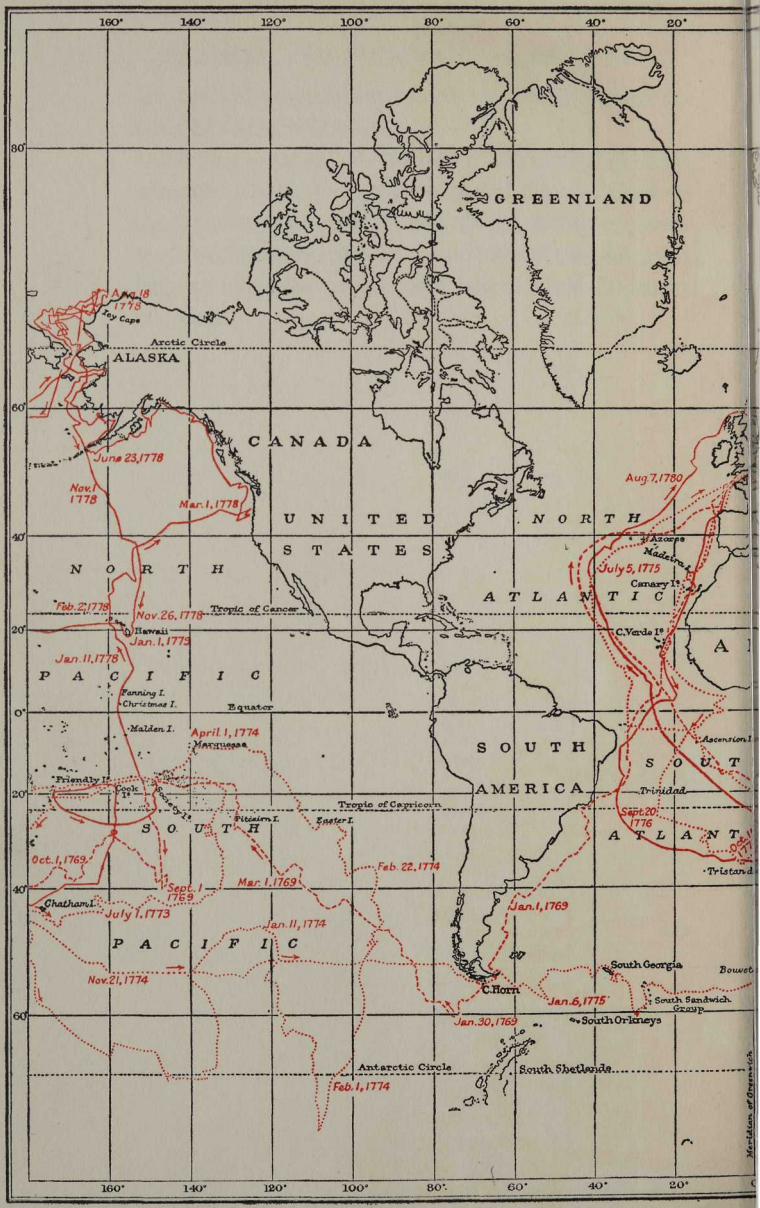
" As for Captain Cook's talent for seamanship and various naval duties, I leave this point to the judgment of men who best know the nature of the undertakings which he has led. They all declare that to conduct with such uniform and unvarying success the expeditions, so dangerous and difficult, of such unusual length and in such diverse and perilous situations, he had need not only of sure and profound knowledge of his profession, but of a vast and powerful genius, fertile in resource, capable at the same time of carrying out great operations and the most trivial details of the service.

" And now, I entrust his memory to the gratitude and admiration of posterity."

Posterity has ratified King's judgment. England, always faithful to the memory of her great men, has put Cook in the first rank of her national heroes. Australia now, as ever, loves to honour the man who, first among the subjects of the British Empire, placed his foot upon her soil. Monuments

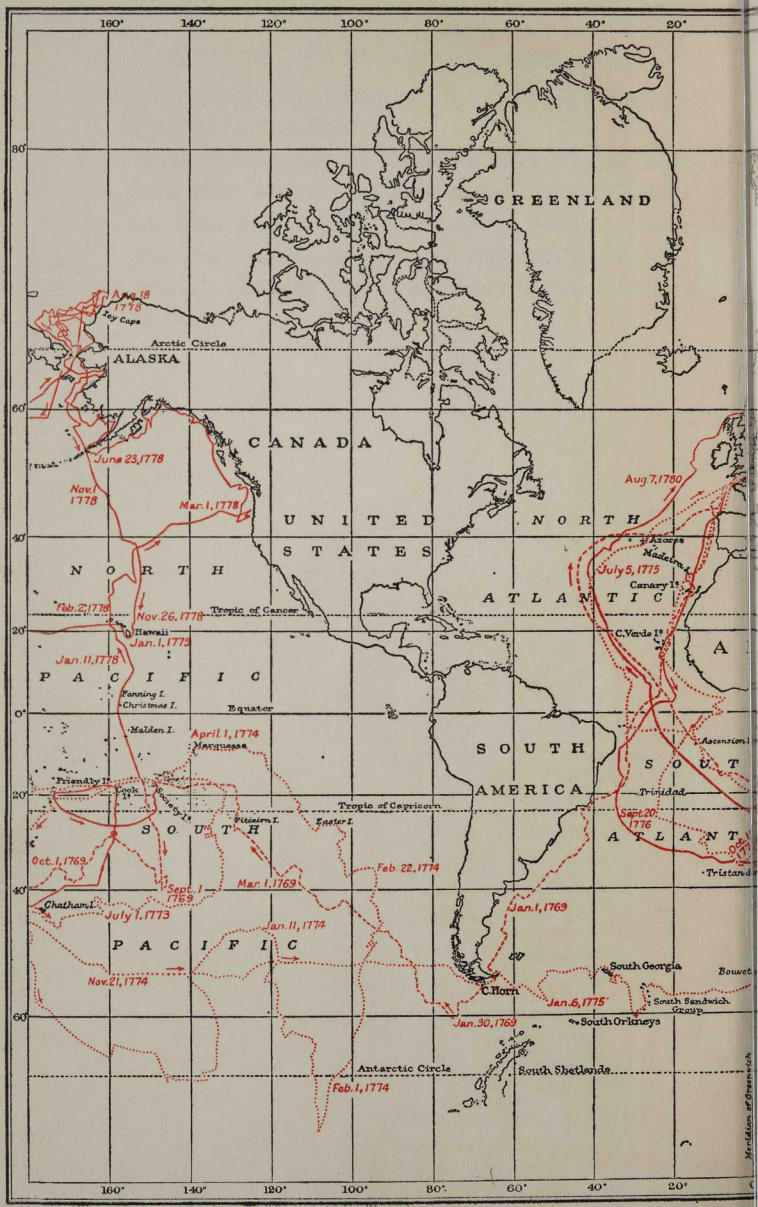
are erected and statues raised to commemorate the fame of Captain Cook.

All the peoples of earth are associated in these tributes of homage, and have hailed Captain Cook as the greatest navigator in the world, because, across seas and frontiers, they have understood that the great English sailor was one of those men of whom humanity is proud.


160°
140°
120°
100°
80°
60°
40°
20°
80°
60°
40°
20°
0°
GREENLAND
Aug. 18 1778
Icy Cape
Arctic Circle
ALASKA
CANADA
June 23, 1778
Nov. 1 1778
Mar. 1, 1778
UNITED STATES
NORTH
Aug. 7, 1780
Azores
Madeira
July 5, 1775
Canary Is.
ATLANTIC
Feb. 21, 1778
Nov. 26, 1778
Tropic of Cancer
Hawaii
Jan. 1, 1779
C. Verde Is.
Jan. 11, 1778
PACIFIC
Fanning I.
Christmas I.
Equator
Malden I.
April 1, 1774
Marquesas
SOUTH AMERICA
Ascension I.
Friendly Is.
Tropic of Capricorn
Pitcairn I.
Easter I.
Trinidad
Sept. 20, 1776
Oct. 1, 1769
Sept. 1 1769
Mar. 1, 1769
Feb. 22, 1774
Tristan d
Chatham I.
July 1, 1773
Jan. 11, 1774
Jan. 1, 1769
Nov. 21, 1774
C. Horn
South Georgia
Bouvet
Jan. 6, 1775
South Sandwich Group
Jan. 30, 1769
South Orkneys
Antarctic Circle
South Shetlands
Feb. 1, 1774
Meridian of Greenwich

MOE

IRELAND & ALLAN, LTD
BOOKS & STATIONERY
649 GRANVILLE ST.
VANCOUVER, B.C.


160°
140°
120°
100°
80°
60°
40°
20°
80°
60°
40°
20°
0°
GREENLAND
Aug. 18 1778
Icy Cape
Arctic Circle
ALASKA
CANADA
June 23, 1778
Nov. 1 1778
Mar. 1, 1778
UNITED STATES
NORTH ATLANTIC
Aug 7, 1780
Azores
Madeira
July 5, 1775
Canary Is.
C. Verde Is.
NORTH PACIFIC
Feb. 2, 1778
Nov. 26, 1778
Tropic of Cancer
Hawaii
Jan. 1, 1779
Jan. 11, 1778
Fanning I.
Christmas I.
Equator
Malden I.
April 1, 1774
Marquesas
Friendly Is.
Cook
SOUTH AMERICA
Trinidad
Sept. 20 1776
Tropic of Capricorn
Pitcairn I.
Easter I.
SOUTH PACIFIC
Oct. 1, 1769
Sept. 1 1769
Mar. 1, 1769
Feb 22, 1774
Chatham I.
July 1, 1773
Jan. 11, 1774
Jan. 1, 1769
Nov. 21, 1774
C. Horn
South Georgia
Jan. 6, 1775
South Sandwich Group
Jan. 30, 1769
South Orkneys
Antarctic Circle
South Shetlands
Feb. 1, 1774
Meridian of Greenwich

IRELAND & ALLAN, LTD
BOOKS & STATIONERY
649 GRANVILLE ST.
VANCOUVER, B.C.

GEOFFREY BLES PUBLICATIONS

CARDINAL NEWMAN

By J. Lewis May. Demy 8vo, 10s, 6d. net.

In this biography John Henry Newman is portrayed as a great religious leader and a master of English prose, and the relation between Newman and Manning is shown in a very different light from that of Mr. Lytton Strachey's "Eminent Victorians."

ANNE STUART, QUEEN OF ENGLAND

By Beatrice Curtis Brown. Illustrated. 10s. 6d. net.

For two centuries we have dismissed Queen Anne as "Dull," "Good" and "Dead." Yet this "dull, good" woman grew up among the gay spirits of the Restoration Court (falling in love with one of its gallants), betrayed her father, and plotted against her sister.

"A charmingly contrived character study."—Mr. John Drinkwater in *The Daily Telegraph.*

"A remarkably interesting book."—Mr. Robert Lynd in *The Daily News.*

VAUBAN: BUILDER OF FORTRESSES

By Daniel Halévy Large Cr. 8vo. 6s. net.

A brilliant study of a great soldier and of the reign of Louis XIV.

"... A picture made with admirable art of a very great and lovable man."—
Mr. J. C. Squire in a two-column review in *The Observer.*

OLD LONDON

By G. Burford Rawlings. Illustrated. 10s. 6d. net.

A very interesting account of the picturesque parts of Old London. The book is illustrated with 50 reproductions of rare old prints.

"A charming book."—*The Daily News.*

AN ARCADIAN CALENDAR

By Marcus Woodward. Illustrated. 6s. net.

A charming Nature Book written by "the most delightful of living writers in the Jefferies tradition."—*The Morning Post.* It is illustrated by Aldo Cosomati.

COUNTRY CONTENTMENTS

By Marcus Woodward. Illustrated. 6s. net.

"... There can be only one opinion about this book; in subject, treatment, illustrations, print and binding it is perfection. To everyone who loves the country, such pages as these are a treasury of delight."—*Isis.*

GEOFFREY BLES, SUFFOLK ST., PALL MALL, LONDON