

On the 22d, several of the officers visited the island. Its population consisted of about twenty-five men, women, and children, among whom was the daughter of the old chief, considered by our officers as a very beautiful girl, with fine figure, expressive countenance, and long silky hair: she was sprightly, but I regret to say, was covered with vermin. The children were fat and chubby.

Dip and intensity observations were made here, and observations on shore for time and variation.

The village consisted of about six huts, which were extremely filthy and smelt more like fish-houses than human habitations. All the inhabitants seemed contented on this small and barren isle, which they called Tuinaki, and which is, in every point of view, one of the most uninteresting of the group. The poor creatures, in obedience to their directions, were setting out cocoa-nut plantations, which were seen growing all over the island: the trees were planted in pits about three feet deep, in order to afford them moisture, and to protect them from the winds. A small spring supplied the inhabitants with water.

Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold, having finished all the necessary observations, proceeded, on the 23d, in search of some islands to the eastward. On the 26th they made the island of Raroia, or Barclay de Tolly, and passed close to it. The position assigned to it on the charts proved to be correct.

On the 27th, they made Takurea, or Wolconsky, with Raroia in sight to the southward: there is a passage between them seven miles wide. The former, Wolconsky, is of an oblong shape, ten miles in circumference: its north end is high and thickly wooded with cocoa-nut groves and other trees: its eastern boundary is partly a submerged reef. There is no opening to its lagoon. It was found to be incorrectly placed on the charts.

On the 29th, one of the Sandwich Islanders died of a severe attack of dysentery, and in the afternoon his body was committed to the deep with the usual funeral ceremonies.

The search after Camboy's and Merrill Islands proved unsuccessful. The position assigned to them, longitude  $141^{\circ}$  W., latitude  $15^{\circ} 13'$  S. having been cruised over without any appearance whatever of land.

On the 5th of January, they passed near Taweree, or Resolution Island, but found there was too much surf to land upon it. There were about twenty inhabitants, who, on the approach of the brig, came running to the beach with cocoa-nuts to barter. They appeared to be stout men, and were thought to resemble the natives seen at Clermont de Tonnerre.

Taweree consists of two small isles, together about four miles in