

The island was surveyed, and was found to be in latitude $8^{\circ} 30' 45''$ S., longitude $179^{\circ} 13' 30''$ E. There appears to be good anchorage within the lagoon; an abundance of wood is to be had, but it is believed there is no adequate supply of fresh water.

From what was ascertained, the population was put down at two hundred and fifty souls.

The vessels left Ellice's Group the same evening, proceeded under easy sail, and at daylight made the Depeyster Islands, distant three and a half miles to the northwest. The two following days, they had squally weather, accompanied with heavy rains, with the wind northward, which obliged them to stand off from the island, as no work could be done. The island was thus lost sight of, but on the 17th it was again made from aloft, to the northward and westward.

On the 18th, the trade-wind set in and brought fine weather; but exceedingly warm, the thermometer standing at 85° in the shade.

They surveyed this island; and on the same day Tracy's Island, whose native name is Oaitupu, was in sight to the eastward. The observations placed it in latitude $7^{\circ} 28'$ S., and longitude $178^{\circ} 43' 35''$ E. It is well covered with trees, and to all appearance as extensive as Depeyster Island. As the wind was directly contrary, and a strong current flowing to the west, Captain Hudson thought it would be a waste of time to attempt to reach it.

Several canoes, with the natives of Depeyster's Group or Island, came off to the ship: they used triangular sails, similar to those of the rest of Polynesia. The natives proved to be of the same race as those of Ellice's Group; speaking the same language, and tattooed after the same fashion.

In colour, however, many of them were rather darker; but few were above the middle size, and none of them had the manly beauty of the Samoans. A greater variety of fashions prevailed among them, which exhibited itself more particularly in their hair. Some wore it like that of the Feejees, and the locks were frequently of a reddish brown, although the natural colour was black. Their skin was coarse and rough to the touch; in many it was disfigured after a singular fashion, and in some it appeared as if a scurf prevailed, resembling a person whose skin was peeling off from the effects of the sun; in others, the stage of the disease was seen farther advanced, the scurf having disappeared, and left the skin marked with circular and wavy lines, which the natives called "tafa."* About a fifth part of the natives

* A name the Samoans apply to the marks they burn on the skin for mourning. This was imputed to the effects of a disease somewhat allied to the ringworm, by the medical