

marks of having been uplifted at different periods; the cliff, at two different heights, appears to have suffered abrasion by the sea. Stalagmites were observed under the cliffs, and some stalactitic columns, fourteen feet high by six in diameter. On coming towards the village, we saw many natives returning with loads of taro, &c., which they had been sent to gather. On our return, we were taken again to the chief's house, and entertained with cocoa-nuts, baked taro, and bread-fruit, which had been cooked during our absence. At the boat we found more articles for purchase than we had the means to pay for, or the boat could carry; and every one seemed desirous of securing the sale of his fruits and vegetables. Notwithstanding the over-supply, the prices were I thought rather enhanced than lowered, and there was an evident feeling among the crowd that we had not been so liberal in buying as we ought to have been. I was glad to get off, in order to be freed from the flies, which are in incredible numbers in all the inhabited islands, and a great nuisance. I left the island under the impression this little community was a happy and contented one. At about five o'clock, we joined the ship, some distance to the southward of the island; all the surveying boats having returned, we bore away for Tahiti, at which island we arrived on the 10th. At 5 p. m., Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold boarded us, and brought off Jim, the pilot; he reported all well on board the Porpoise. At sunset, we anchored in Matavai Bay. I hastened to ascertain the correctness of our chronometers, and the next day landed the instruments on Point Venus, and took observations. They gave for its longitude  $149^{\circ} 31' 13.5''$  W. Krusenstern makes it  $149^{\circ} 29' 17''$  W.

Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold, in the Porpoise, after parting company on the 1st of September, proceeded to the south side of Raraka, in fulfilment of his instructions. He found the whole southern part of it a bare reef, with the surf breaking violently over it. When off the south point, he made the isle of Katiu or Sacken to the south, and that of Makima to the east, and connected them; after which he proceeded to the westward, passing Aratica (Carlshoff), and thence to Nairsa or Dean's Island, which he made on the 5th; fixed its western end, passed along its south to its western side, and thence to Krusenstern's Island, to the westward, which he circumnavigated; from thence went direct to Tahiti, anchored in Papieti Harbour on the 9th, and the next day proceeded to Matavai Bay, the place of rendezvous.

On the 12th, the Peacock arrived, having passed to the Rurick Islands or Arutua, the north end of which lies in latitude  $15^{\circ} 15' 00''$  S., longitude  $146^{\circ} 51' 00''$  W. A landing was attempted at several places in the boats. One of them succeeded near a cocoa-nut grove,