

of the latest charts, it would be well that its non-existence should be equally proved by the American Expedition.

IV. *The Solomon Islands*.—These islands have partly been visited by D'Urville and Shortland, partly by D'Entrecasteaux; and several English ships have at different times sailed through them; but a complete survey of all the islands composing this great archipelago is still wanting. It is indeed very singular that, of all the navigators who have lately visited the Pacific Ocean, none have ever attempted any thing like a systematic survey of these islands, with the exception of D'Entrecasteaux, who, at least, sailed along the southern islands, from east to west, and thus greatly improved the hydrography of them. I have published, in the year 1827, a chart of these islands, (*Carte Systématique de l'Archipel des Isles Salomon*.) Having collected all the materials that were to be had at that time, many of them in apparent contradiction to each other, I endeavoured to reconcile them, and to delineate the islands belonging to this archipelago, to the best of my judgment. (An account of my proceedings will be found in the *Memoir* accompanying my chart.) By the first survey of these islands, it will be seen whether some of my combinations have been well founded or not. The Solomon Islands being the greatest archipelago in the Pacific Ocean, and the least known, deserve, no doubt, to be as completely surveyed as the Society, Friendly, or other groups. Although ten years have elapsed since my chart was published, nothing has been done since that time for the hydrography of these islands, to enable me to improve the second edition of that chart, (1836,) except in the situation of a group of islands, discovered lately, to the northward of the Solomon Islands.

V. *New Caledonia*.—A dangerous reef has lately been discovered by the ship *Petrie*, to the northward of New Caledonia; the precise position of this danger ought to be determined.

VI. *Loyalty Islands*.—Captain D'Urville has been the first to survey the Loyalty Islands; but having sailed only along the northern side of them, it is to be wished that the southern shore might also be surveyed.

VII.* *The Feejee Islands*.—Captain D'Urville has done a great deal to give us a more correct chart of these islands, having surveyed a great part of them; but still he has left unexplored many islands belonging to this archipelago. In my supplementary memoir to the chart of these islands, I have endeavoured to combine Captain D'Urville's survey with such surveys as had been made previous to his voyage; and have constructed, according to all the data that have come to my knowledge, a new chart of the Feejee Islands, (named by Captain D'Urville, *Viti Islands*.) Of course the chart cannot be very