

Barth Balle Meek 10th 58

Month On Wednesday the third we went in to mid of the Marquesas islands called Keopoo and I never imagined there was as savage a set of human beings upon the face of the earth they were nearly all naked and tattooed horribly only half civilized. we went ashore with two boats many of them were laying around the beach drunk on aged duck made from the coconuts. we kept close together in the beach for we make up our minds if they could sweep us away from the beach they would. We saw in the bay some 2000 coconuts and few Bananas and some poultry. we saw a ship laying at anchor off of the island we could not make out who she was. On Thursday little Dick lay out Thursday Blows and three more of my large school of eperuan whels off the leeward. The second mate (Mr Pritchard) killed two and the fourth mate and Mr Spaulding we got them made fast along side of the ship just after dark. I took Bats cats match all night and found got them out in 11 o'clock. A.M. commenced trying out in the afternoon. had to cool down again at 7 P.M. it commenced raining and I never saw it rain harder than it did all that night commenced trying out again Saturday morning. had to cool down again at night in account of the rain. Finished yesterday the 3 whels made us stop. I took a Spume and dug out sail for from the front head. but it proved to be of large rock and a little further on we saw quite a large island we did intend to throw the main of the island. One of the Kanakas ran away in Keopoo we did not attempt to keep from him. I still continue to have a great deal of pain in my breast with a dry cough it frightens me some

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Sunth Been blowing a strong breeze during the past week. we have been sailing ship to get rid of the rats when we took the rats for and must down in the hole we found some so dead ones. all hands fore and aft had to eat and sleep on Decks for 48 hours. I think Dear Mother I shall be obliged to have the ship when we arrive at Bauwick islands for I do not think I could live during another season on the cold North. My cough seems to increase and the pain in my side gets no better I am getting smaller each day and am getting very thin in flesh. I have said nothing as yet to the old man about my leaving the island and I do not know how he will be willing that I should. but I intend going to a doctor and in all probability he will tell the old man I have not left to go North in the ship. We expect to be in India in two weeks from this time. we are now in lat 3 south of the Equator we have been reaching around here for the past 10 days after Spence's. It is extremely warm. I want very much to hear from you all again and shall expect Prof 3 letters will be ready to receive me upon our arrival. We have seen as many as 6 water spouts all at one time in cooperation within a mile of the ship during the past week. I would like very much to be in the States now if I am afraid this will turn out to be the consumption that I have. I think if I could have good medical advice I might get rid of it before it got settled upon my lungs. I am afraid it will be long