

February 1822

the Equator. - On the 16th we crossed the Equator the third time the voyage all went well - On the 21st spoke the Ship Abolo of Old Town Capt. Henry the in an hour with 800 bbls of oil - concluded to be company with her & run for the Island of Pit Cairns for the purpose of refreshing - from the 22nd of February to the 7th of March we had nothing remarkable - On the 8th at Day light discovered Pit Cairns Island bearing S by E 6 leagues distant - we made sail & stood for it with a light breeze in company with the Abolo - at 10 am a boat came along side with 7 men in it all neatly clad in the ^{they hailed us in good English & made signs as to the} American style - Their boat being in a very leaky condition we hoisted it in & our carpenter repaired it for them they brought us some bananas plantains coconuts & melons & informed us that there was plenty more on the Island

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at noon our Capt invited them to dine with him but they refused to eat anything telling him it was their fast day & that they had time in a week on which they strictly abstain from food of any kind In the afternoon the Capt with three of the crew went on shore & staid during the night as there was no anchorage we were obliged to stand off & on with the Island during the night & experienced some very heavy squalls of rain - In the morning the boat returned with some few of a pleasing account of their reception by the Inhabitants & also the delightful situation of the village - On the 9th & 10th we passed much as the 8th each day part of the crew went ashore on liberty & returned with various plantains bananas coconuts &c - On the 12th I went ashore with the Capt & three of the crew for the first time