

in the Society Islands, they have said, 'Why did you not come here sooner? Was it because we killed Captain Cook?'—The death of their King and Queen in London, was regarded by many of them as a judgment of God, inflicted on the islands for the murder of the great Captain.

The noblest result of Cook's voyages remains to be noticed,—the introduction of Christianity among the tribes whom he discovered, imparting the richest of all blessings, and securing the increase and permanence of civilization. In 1797, the agents of the London Missionary Society were settled at Otaheite; and after fifteen years of persevering labour, and patient suffering, the efforts of the pious and devoted Missionaries, were crowned with glorious success. Idolatry, with its bloody rites, was abolished; the infamous *arreoy* society was dissolved, and its abominations and infant-murders were put down; the restrictions of the *taboo* were removed, and females advanced to their proper station in social life; the horrors of war gave place to the sweets of peace; and true religion, with its attendant virtues, began to prevail. The Scriptures have been translated and printed in the language of the natives, thousands of whom have been taught to read, while numbers have learned the arts and industry of Europeans. The Society Isles have shared with the Georgian, in the blessings of Christianity and civilization; and these blessings have spread from group to group, and from island to island, till a large portion of the Polynesian tribes have been reclaimed from idolatry and wickedness. Many of the early converts have carried the gospel to distant isles, and some modern navigators have been astonished at meeting with