

numbers, and the only difficulty I experienced was in preventing them from thrusting their pigs into the boat. Indeed, I began to fear I had not wherewith to answer their demands. However, putting a roll of duck into the hands of the chief, who deliberately measured it, fourteen large hogs were awarded for twenty-eight yards; which was at the rate of one shilling and eightpence per hog. It was not without difficulty that we cleared the mob, whose heads impeded our oars. Some few shells were obtained, but none of value, nor was even a middling pearl offered. At four we bore away for Tahiti.

The natives of Chain Island are remarkably well formed and well featured, although of a darker cast than those of Marquesas, or Tahiti. The women are more masculine, probably from frequent exercise and exposure in the water, and probably less changed by civilization or the introduction of European clothing. Their hair is very beautiful, reaching in strong wavy tresses to the middle, strongly reminding one of mermaids.

Two very fine young women clung to our boat for a considerable time. It was useless to desire the crew to make them let go; they were fascinated, and I was really ashamed to treat them rudely. They begged hard, as I understood, to take leave of their brothers or relatives, to whom I had given a passage, and were accordingly towed off; but on reaching the ship, then more than a mile from the shore, they struck off for a canoe near us. Those

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