



Convicts landing at Botany Bay.

AUSTRALASIA.

1. AUSTRALASIA comprises a number of islands lying south-eastward from Malaysia: of these, Australia or new Holland, New Guinea, and New Zealand, are the most extensive. The inhabitants are chiefly Papuan Negroes, and rank among the lowest of the human family.

2. AUSTRALIA, formerly called New Holland, is the largest island in the world. It is now a part of the British Empire. New South Wales, North Australia, South Australia, and West Australia, are its chief divisions. The Blue Mountains are the highest range, and the Murray the largest river, yet discovered.

3. The aborigines of Australia are very rude and degraded: those in the interior exist on roots, tubers, worms, and what they kill in the chase. Those on the coast live mostly on fishing, yet their canoes are of the rudest description. Some



Native on his Log.

are merely a large piece of bark folded and tied up at each end, and some only a log, on which they sit and guide with their hands.

Australasia. Q.—1. What is said of Australasia? 2. Australia? 3. Its three great divisions, &c.? 3. Describe the aborigines. 4. Botany