

not been able to bring his guns to bear upon the retreating islanders, and the savages could not as yet appreciate the hostile power which they had aroused. When the ship had got under sail, twenty-two canoes followed her, and advancing within range of the guns were fired upon, and one man being killed, and the shot striking the canoes, they turned towards the shore. The man who was killed bore a white flag in his hand. Tasman's course precluded him from ascertaining that what he took for a large bay was the strait separating the northern from the southern island, which unitedly are known under the name of New Zealand. He therefore naturally looked upon the other island as a continuation of the same land, and that in fact he was upon the shores of the new continent believed to exist in this part of the southern ocean. "It is," he says, "a very fine country, and we hope it is a part of the unknown South Continent." One of his countrymen had made a similar mistake about a quarter of a century before, having come in sight of land which he conceived to be part of a continent, and to which he gave the name of Staten Land, or States' Land. Just at this time, or a few months afterwards, the supposed continent was discovered to be an island of no great extent; but Tasman believed that he had also fallen in with a portion of Staten Land, or the Southern Continent. When it was ascertained that the country called Staten Land was only an island, Tasman's discovery received the name of New Zealand. On the 4th of January he passed the north-western extremity of New Zealand, which he named Cape Maria Van Diemen, in honour of a lady to whom it was said he was attached, the daughter of the governor under whose auspices the expedition was projected.

It was above a century after Tasman's voyage before New Zealand was again visited by Europeans; but on the 6th of October, 1769, Captain Cook, then making his first voyage of circumnavigation in the Endeavour, came in sight of the island. There appear to be some indistinct grounds for concluding that a ship had visited it a few years before the arrival of the Endeavour, and that the crew had been massacred by the natives; but nothing certain could be learned on this subject. Captain Cook approached New Zealand from the west, on his passage from the Society Islands, while Tasman had reached it from the east. The general opinion on board the Endeavour was that they also had found the "Terra Australis Incognita." On the 8th Cook anchored, and soon after went on shore accompanied by Mr. (afterwards Sir Joseph) Banks and Dr. Solander, and were unhappily attacked by the natives, on whom they were compelled to fire in self-defence. An attempt at friendly intercourse was made the day following, but though aided by the persuasion of a native of Otaheite on board the Endeavour, it proved unsuccessful. The Endeavour did not leave this part of the coast without an unfortunate collision with the natives, who fought in the most obstinate manner against an unequal force, the contest ending in four of the savages being killed. Two youths, one aged 19, and the other 11, were taken on board the ship, where they expected instant death, but being kindly treated soon recovered their spirits. Being unable to obtain provisions at this

place, to which Cook gave the name of Poverty Bay, the anchor was weighed, and the Endeavour, pursuing the line of coast, came to the supposed bay in which Tasman had anchored, and which Cook found to be a strait separating the islands: in the maps it bears the name of Cook's Straits. Our great navigator spent a considerable time at New Zealand, and his chart of the coast is considered to have been unusually accurate. M. Crozet, a French navigator who subsequently surveyed a portion of the same coast, pays a tribute to Cook's accuracy and exactness, and says:—"I doubt whether our own coasts of France have been delineated with more precision."

While Captain Cook was on the coast a French vessel came in sight, the commander of which, M. de Surville, was in search of an island said to have been discovered by the English, which contained the precious metals. De Surville was treated with unexpected kindness by the New Zealanders, who received the sick on shore and supplied them with refreshments, for which they would accept of no recompense. The reward they did receive was a disgraceful return for this hospitality. One of De Surville's boats being missing, he suspected it to have been stolen by the natives, and took the following dastardly revenge. A chief who had been treacherously invited on board, was made prisoner, and orders were then given to burn one of the villages, which happened to be that in which the sick mariners had been received with so much kindness. De Surville then left the island, carrying with him the unhappy chief, who died off Juan Fernandez, of a broken heart.

The next visit which the New Zealanders received from Europeans was by Frenchmen, who came in two ships commanded by M. Marion du Fresne in 1772, and which made the land on the south-western part of the southern islands. The natives came on board, were highly gratified with their reception and the objects which they saw around them, and the most friendly intercourse sprung up on both sides, the natives coming on board at pleasure, and the officers and crews of the two ships rambling on shore without suspicion, and every where hospitably received. On the 8th of June, when they had been above a month on the coast, the honours of chieftanship were formally conferred upon Marion by the assembled natives; but from this period a singular change took place in their conduct. They ceased to visit the ship, with the exception of a youth who had evinced a strong attachment to one of the officers, and who came on board once apparently in great dejection, though he said nothing as to the circumstances which had so powerfully depressed his spirits. Four days afterwards (on the 12th) Marion went on shore accompanied by sixteen men, including four superior officers, for the purpose of having a day's fishing at some distance inland. Night came without their returning to the ship, but this circumstance excited no suspicion, as it was concluded they had been induced to accept of the hospitalities of one of the chiefs, Tacouri, who had always been one of their warmest friends. In the morning a boat was sent ashore for wood and water, and after having being absent about four hours, the ship's company were surprised at seeing one of their comrades