

3. The people of Polynesia are in general mild and gentle, yet fierce and warlike when stimulated by some particular object; and their contests have been carried on with such ferocity, that some islands have been entirely depopulated; they were much addicted to various cruel and barbarous customs, to which their native religion gave full sanction, of which the sacrificing of human beings, the eating of human flesh, and the murder of infants, were common. These practices, though not so general as formerly, have not entirely ceased.

4. The LADRONES ISLANDS were the first known to Europeans of any in this region, having been discovered by Magellan in 1512. The original inhabitants have been nearly all exterminated by the Spaniards.

The CAROLINE ISLANDS are but little known, being situated in a tempestuous ocean and exposed to furious hurricanes. These islands, with the Ladrones, both belong to Spain.

5. The SANDWICH ISLANDS are the most important and interesting of this region. Hawaii or Owhyhee is the largest of the group; its area is nearly equal to that of the State of Connecticut.

The people in 1819 destroyed their idols and embraced Christianity.

6. A number of missionaries from the United States are residing here, and a large proportion of the inhabitants have been taught reading, writing, and arithmetic. Churches have been erected; the press has been for some time in operation, at which school-books, the Scriptures, newspapers, &c. are printed in the language of the country.

7. The town of Honolulu, in the island of Oahu, is the capital of the Sandwich islands; it contains about 5000 inhabitants, of whom 100 are whites. Great commercial activity prevails here; many American and European ships are always in port, and a considerable number of small vessels belong to the natives.

8. The MENDANA ARCHIPELAGO comprises the Marquesas and Washington islands; they are very fertile, and furnish food to the inhabitants almost without labour; the people are among the most finely formed of any known race, and are but little darker than Southern Europeans.

9. The SOCIETY and GEORGIAN ISLANDS are remarkable for being the first in Polynesia, of which the inhabitants embraced Christianity. Otaheite, or Tahiti, the largest of the Georgian islands, is one of the finest in this quarter of the world. Dancing, once the chief amusement of the people, was performed on all occasions of pleasure, worship, state, or ceremony, but is now less practised than formerly.

The PEARL or PAUMOTU ISLANDS are a numerous range of small islands; they are but little known, and many of them are uninhabited. The AUSTRAL, HEAVEY, and PALLISEA ISLANDS are situated at various distances from Otaheite; the people speak a language similar to that of the Otaheiteans, and have all been converted to Christianity by the missionaries.

ple, &c. 4. Ladronc. Caroline. 5. Sandwich islands. 6. What is said of the missionaries? 7. Honolulu? 8. Mendana Archipelago? 9. Society and Georgian Is.? Pearl? Austral, &c.? 10. Friendly