

*long-boat, which had been stolen, should be restored. Whether this advice came from the friends of Cook, or was the result of his own reflections, it proved a most unfortunate, a most fatal decision. Surely there was a momentary absence of his accustomed prudence, for, with only four companions, he resolutely exposed himself to this hazardous Enterprize. He soon triumphed over an immense throng of Savages, who were assembled to oppose him, and made a Captive of their King. Having so far succeeded, he endeavoured to check the indignation of his Sailors, and to stop the firing from the Ships. Valiant Englishmen! Why did ye not listen to the voice of your Commander? for the random shot which at this moment laid low the most distinguished Chief of the Island, by it's melancholy consequence, rendered your Courage of no effect, destroyed all your schemes, and desolated all your hopes. And now the Barbarians seemed to have acquired the ferocity of lions, and with one accord, to have devoted their foes to slaughter, and perdition. They made the women and children retire, they armed themselves, after their savage fashion, and united for attack. Let us! exclaimed*