

tended to the west, by what lands it was bounded on that side, and the connections of those lands with former discoveries, remained unknown, till Captain Cook, after his first voyage, brought back a satisfactory decision of this important question. With wonderful skill and perseverance, amidst perplexities, difficulties, and dangers, he traced this coast almost two thousand miles, from the 38° of south latitude, cross the tropic, to its northern extremity, within 10° and a half of the equinoctial, where it joined the land already explored by the Dutch, which they have denominated New Holland.

The voyages projected by His present Majesty George the Third, and carried into execution by Captain Cook, have not, it is presumed, been useless. When Great Britain was first visited by the Phœnicians, the inhabitants were painted savages, much less civilized than those of Tongataboo, or Otaheite; and it is not impossible, but that our late voyages may, in process of time, spread the blessings of civilization among the numerous islanders of the South Pacific Ocean, and be the means of abolishing their abominable repasts, and almost equally abominable sacrifices.