

woman of Barking; but early in the next year he went again to Newfoundland, as surveyor, with Captain Graves, and he afterwards acted in the same capacity under Sir Hugh Palliser. While thus employed, he made an observation of an eclipse of the sun, which he communicated to the Royal Society. It being determined to send out astronomers to observe the transit of Venus in some part of the South Sea, Mr. Cook was selected to command the Endeavour, a ship taken up for that service; and accordingly he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant, May 25. 1768. Our limits will not allow of giving the details of this interesting voyage; and therefore we shall content ourselves with stating, that the transit was observed to great advantage at Otaheite; after which lieutenant Cook explored the neighbouring islands, and then shaped his course for New Zealand, which he circumnavigated, and thus ascertained that it was not a continent. From thence he sailed to New Holland, or, as it is now called, New South Wales, where he anchored in Botany Bay, April 28. 1770, an epoch of great importance in the history of that part of the world. From hence he sailed to New Guinea, and next to Batavia, where the ship being refitted, he returned to Europe, and arrived in the Downs, June 12. 1771. For his services on this occasion, Mr. Cook was promoted to the rank of commander, and an account of his voyage was soon after published by Dr. Hawkesworth. The interest ex-