

and fifty years ago. There remains, then, to be made a complete survey of all these islands. As to the islands near them, seen by Maurell, it is not likely that they are the same, as some have supposed. This is another reason why they should be all explored with the greatest precision.

IX. *Admiralty Islands*.—It is much to be wished that the islands seen by Maurell, to the eastward of the Great Admiralty Island, should be explored, since we know that Maurell's account of his discoveries does not satisfy the hydrographer.

X. *New Britain*.—Admiral D'Entrecasteaux has seen and determined, with his usual exactness, the islands situated along the north coast of New Britain; but he has not been able to lay down the coast itself, which he has seen only at a distance, and some parts not all.

XI.\* *Low Islands*.—Captain Hagemaster, of the Russian navy, discovered, in the year 1830, an island to the westward of King George's Islands. This island cannot be any other than Schouten's Waterlandt. Captain Wilson sailed between two islands, which he took to be King George's Islands. Most navigators have been of the same opinion; although there is a difference of longitude of more than a degree between the islands seen by Wilson and King George's Islands. Captain Duperrey (an excellent authority, as every hydrographer will readily admit,) is of a different opinion; he maintains that the two islands between which Wilson sailed are not King George's Islands, but are situated to the westward of them. He thinks that the island seen by Captain Hagemaster, which I take to be Waterlandt, is one of the two islands; and that Captain Hagemaster has not seen the other. In order to refute Captain Duperrey's hypothesis, the second island, which, according to him, Captain Hagemaster might not have perceived, ought to be searched for, to the westward of Captain Hagemaster's island; if it really does exist, it cannot be at a greater distance than about fifteen or twenty miles.

XII.\* *Commodore Byron's Isles of Disappointment* have not been visited since their first discovery in 1765. I have endeavoured to settle their longitude at  $140^{\circ} 42' W.$  (page 87 of my supplement); but this being only an approximation, they ought to be surveyed—at least visited anew.

XIII\*. By my memoirs, page 281, and supplement, page 90, you will perceive that there is a difference of  $27'$  between Captain Bellinghausen's and Captain Kotzebue's longitude of the west point of *Prince of Wales's Island*\* and the island situated to the westward of it†. What may be the cause of this difference? since the two navigators do not differ, either before or after, more than three minutes. Either the length of Vlighen Island has been overrated by Captain Kotzebue, or some other error has crept into the longitude of either the one or the other. As both are excellent observers, it would be very desirable to settle this point, by examining and surveying carefully all the islands lying to the westward and eastward of Vlighen Island, and determine with the greatest precision the width of the channels separating the different islands, as well as the exact length of

\* On some charts this island is named Dean's Isle; on my charts Vlighen Isle.

† By Captain Porter called Gamble; by Captain Kotzebue, Krusenstern Island.

Vlighen or Prince of Wales's Island: the error will, most likely, be detected in the length of that isle.

XIV.\* There is a difference of  $17'$  in the longitude of the isle *Clermont de Tonnerre* between Captain Duperrey and Captain Beechey. At Serle Island, close to it, there is hardly any difference at all. The same difference of  $17'$  exists in the longitude of Prince William Henry, which Captain Beechey has proved to be the same with Captain Duperrey's isle *Lortingo*; whereas at *Molla Island*, both Captains Beechey and Duperrey agree perfectly well. It would be worth while to search for the cause of such anomalies.

XV.\* Captain Beechey is of opinion that Captain Duperrey's isle *Clermont de Tonnerre* is one and the same with the island of Minerva. Captain Duperrey, on the contrary, maintains that the island Minerva is the same as Serle Island. I am of this latter opinion; although the solution of this problem will much depend upon the distance of the island Clermont de Tonnerre from Serle Island, which is much less on Duperrey's chart than on Captain Beechey's.

XVI.\* There has been lately discovered an island of considerable extent, of the name of *Raraka*. It would be well to examine it, since the account given of it is not quite satisfactory. It is stated to be situated in  $16, 3' S.$ , and  $145^{\circ} W.$

XVII.\* I have placed on my chart of the Low Islands, several islands, the position of which is rather doubtful; for instance, the *Bunger's Group* of Turnbull, the island of *Britomart*, the islands discovered by Quiros, and several others. In order to have any certainty about their existence and precise position, it is necessary to search for and make a survey of them.

XVIII.\* *The Islands of San Bernardo and the Islands of Danger*.—Mendane discovered a group of islands, named by him San Bernardo. These islands have been seen by Captains Freycinet and Bellinghausen. Not far from them Byron discovered a small group, which he named Islands of Danger. Notwithstanding a difference of latitude of half a degree, the two groups have been considered as one and the same. It has not been thought impossible that in Byron's latitudes there might have been a typographical error: besides, none of all the navigators who have passed here, have ever found a second group, which they could not have missed if it really existed. Captain Duperrey, however, who is, as I have said above, a high authority in whatever relates to the hydrography of the South Seas, is of a different opinion: he maintains that Byron's islands of Danger do exist. In order to settle that question, it is necessary to search under the meridian of the islands San Bernardo, as determined by Captain Bellinghausen, for these Islands of Danger in the latitude assigned to them by Byron, as well as for the chain of reefs of which he speaks, and which are situated, according to him, to the eastward. This has not been done yet, and it would be very desirable if it was done, in order not to leave the least doubt on the subject.

XIX.\* *Marianne Islands*.—On Captain Freycinet's chart there is to be seen, to the south-west of the Island of Assumption, reefs, by the name of Mary's. Rocks of the same name have been seen by La Perouse, to the northward of Assump-