

the natives, which might have occasioned also a delay to the whole squadron, as they are evidently hostile.

I trust a similar occurrence will not come under my notice again during the present cruise.

The orders to the officers of the boats must be well understood before they leave the ship, and strictly obeyed; otherwise the intercourse with the islands must be restricted.

I am, &c.,

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

CAPT. WM. L. HUDSON,
U. S. Ship Peacock.

XLIII.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
August 31st, 1835.

HEREAFTER no specimens of coral, live shells, or any thing else that may produce a bad smell, will be taken below the spar-deck, or into any of the rooms; and it will be the duty of those bringing such on board, to report them to the officer of the deck, who will see that they are placed under the charge of a man appointed to look out for them; and that this order is strictly obeyed.

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

XLIV.

U. S. Ship Vincennes,
At Sea, September 1st, 1839.

Sir,—

You will proceed around the island of Raraka, and obtain its dimensions, as indicated in your orders of yesterday, turning its west point, and continuing down its south side, until you reach the position you left yesterday. Your courses and distances must be kept very accurately, and your approach to the shore and reef, as near as practicable with safety.

You will always regain the same position in the morning, that you left the day before.

After you shall have executed this duty, you will then proceed to the northeast, and make the island we discovered, called Taiara, or King's Island, and steer from there by daylight a northwest course.