

were six weeks among these Islands, (and) minutely explored nine of them, when we were finally leaving them coming past the end of one of them, called the Prime of Wales's Islands, about sun set with a light breeze and the vessel under sail, 4 or 500 hundred of the natives composed of men women and children came down on the beach to look at the ship as she past, the Captain wantonly and barbarously and without the least provocation whatever as we had no communication with this Island or the natives, fired five or six large guns amongst them laden with grape shot <sup>the best</sup> remonstrated with the Capt<sup>n</sup> before he fired the gun, and endeavored to persuade him from such a wanton act of cruelty and inhumanity but he paid no attention to <sup>his</sup> remonstrance