

3

particularly, was doing a most honorable and praise worthy action. He called the unfortunate seamen out of the rigging with an intent to save them, and would have succeeded in his object had he not been opposed by Tippookee and Tiana who took them from him by force. The natives of Mangarua while they acknowledge their own cruelty universally assert that when they were killing the sailors Tippookee held his hand over his eyes and shed tears. He by no means joined them in their horrid festival. I am thus circumstantial in order to show that the little acquaintance which Tippookee had had with the civilized world had been very beneficial to him in a trying moment. The people of Tappooa are very desirous to have their innocence established with the people of England.

In March 31st a canoe returned from the River Thames the people on board having killed and eaten three men and taken a woman and five female children prisoners, whom they intend to keep as slaves. The head of one of the unfortunate victims was exhibited in our settlement. It had been cured by the natives for the purpose of showing their friends at home the victory they had obtained over their enemies. The settlers entreated the natives to take it away and bury it in the ground. We think it our duty to express our concern at every thing which relates to their wars and cannibalism as opportunities offer: and we do this in a friendly manner. There are many thousands who, I believe, are astonished when they hear of men being sunk into such a low state of depravity and degradation.