



Journal kept by Jan Carstensz on his voyage to New Guinea



Journal kept by Jan Carstensz on his voyage to New Guinea, including a copy of the Act of Conveyance, Submission and Obedience, by which the inhabitants of the islands of Queij and Aro committed themselves to their High Mightinesses the States-General etc.

Anno 1623

In the name of God Amen

The translation of the *‘Journael van Jan Carstensz. op de ghedaene reyse van Nova Guinea’*, ed. in L.C.D. van Dijk, **Twee togten naar de Golf van Carpentaria** was partly taken from J.E. Heeres, **The Part borne by the Dutch in the Discovery of Australia 1606-1765**. Leiden/London, 1899. Additional translations by Elise Reynolds and Marianne Roobol.



JANUARY

On Saturday the 21st we weighed anchor just off the coast of Amboina and set sail from there, accompanied by the vessel Aernem, with variable winds, crossing the river estuary and sailing by the Hook of Rosenine in the afternoon, holding an E.S.E. course for Banda, in the evening we took our bearings in relation to the Island of Nosselauw to the N.E., a W.N.W. wind.

On Sunday the 22nd the direction of the wind remained unchanged, our course unaltered, at noon we assessed our position by measuring the distance to Paullo Swangij, Poulleron and Poulo-aij S.E. by E., on course S.E. by S. for Poulo-aij, disembarking two hours before the evening set in, bearing two letters addressed to the

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Lord Governor Sonck, which we handed to him personally, as our ship – not to waste any time – sailed on to Banda, arriving there at midnight, his Lordship following suit in a smaller boat (a so-called ‘arambaij’).

On Monday the 23rd all freight for Banda was unloaded by means of a smaller vessel and with the assistance of workmen.

[Banda.] On the 24th and 25th the Aernem and Pera (which had arrived there about a week ago) provided us with as much water and firewood as possible, and by making an immediate appeal to the Lord Governor we also managed to get hold of an experienced carpenter, stonemason and barber (as the Aernem did not yet have one), for which three boatsmen were left behind.

On Thursday 26th the ships were again ready for sailing and we took our leave of his Lordship, who was – for sure – extremely forthcoming in helping us in every possible way, passing through the Salamsche Gadt towards the evening, the wind was W. and W.N.W., treacherous weather with heavy gushes of rain, on an E. and E. by S. course and sailing 15 miles overnight by computation, this same night the poles of the mainmast were broken, so we had to take it down.

[Seven islands.] On Friday 27th, in the morning, we sighted seven islands, course held E., sailing another 9 miles until noon; the aforementioned islands lay mostly towards N.N.W. and S.S.E. at a distance of 9 miles, and about 28 miles away from Banda; we changed our course in the afternoon, holding a S.S.E. course in order to sail along the eastside of the islands, in the evening course held S.E. and E.S.E. and continued

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S.E. by E. after computation, sailing 17 miles, a northerly wind, treacherous weather and heavy rain. [Marginal note: Three islands.] On the morning of Saturday 28th, three mountainous islands appeared, 5 miles away from us, the southernmost island S.S.W., holding an E. course, at noon we were at latitude 5° 13', a N.N.W. wind, a firm breeze, dropping anchor at three o'clock in the afternoon, on a sandy patch along the eastside of the island Qeij close to a village called Surarat, presenting the peace flag, upon which the people of the island also showed a white sign, three black men came aboard, without hesitation and showing no particular sign of fear; the Jurebass [interpreter] was asked to come ashore, he was willing to do so; while he was on the island discussing all kinds of relevant issues with the natives, both ships drifted further into sea due to strong winds, the jurebass was then escorted back to the ship, delivering good news as the islanders had proved willing to subject themselves to the authority and protection of their High Mightinesses the States-General and the Prince of Orange etc., and would accept the prince's flag. Our plan was to remain at anchor for the greater part of the night, hoping for an opportunity to carry out the Company's orders the next day, but that proved impossible, due to strong blasts of winds and downpours, all through the night, so in order to avoid a severely dangerous

situation for both ships, a possible end to the voyage and more hardship, it was decided we should change our course

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and set sail for Aro, hoping for an opportunity to do ‘something remarkable’ there.

[Queij is mountainous and is situated about 20 miles to the west of Aro.] Queij is quite a large island, its maximum length about 8 miles, stretching from the S.S.E. to the N.N.W., high hills, it is most densely populated in the east, and according to the jurebasse (who is a native of Aro) its land is fertile, producing plants such as ‘ubii’, ‘caladii’, corn and sweet potato, and also bananas, coconuts, ‘pauwe-canarii’, and all kinds of palm trees, various wild fruits, which are eaten there, but no trees like ‘dorions’, mangroves or ‘lansen’ whatsoever, a great many pigs, goats, chicken, ‘cacatuen’, ‘peroquities’ and other kinds of fowl, but no birds of paradise or ‘casuaris’, which may only be found on Aro and the Papoua; the islanders have no religion, eat pork and thousand other kinds of food, anything they can get hold of, they are tall and have well proportioned bodies, their have long hair and they wear fish bones for necklaces and bracelets, their private parts just about covered with pieces of cloth, they are well trained in canoeing and transporting people in small boats (so-called ‘prauwen’), which are both common. Their rather limited collection of weaponry consists of bows, arrows, ‘basagaijen’, spears, shields and swords, they are also talented fishermen – employing fishing rods in small boats, working at night using fire; they treasure old iron, chopping-knives, regular knives, poor quality rugs and more clutter of little value, whilst fruit and cattle are scarce, as are slaves. So much we have learnt – in truth - of the island of Queij.

The following night (for reasons already expounded) we held an E.N. by E. course for Aro.

[Aro is a level island, at a distance of 21 miles eastwards from Queij at a latitude of 5° 30’.] On Sunday 29th we were at a latitude of 5° 16’, the northern part of the isle of Aro was in sight, three miles away from us E. by S.

and E., having sailed about nineteen miles by computation from Qeij, a breeze from the N.N.W., in the evening we remained at anchor on a

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sandy patch just off the northern island of Aro, protected from the north-westerly wind; just then a number of small boats approached the ship, carrying black people who wanted to speak to the jurebass, and promised us they would return the next day with refreshments.

On Monday 30th the Arouese people indeed brought on board edibles like coconuts, bananas and chicken, and the jurebass was sent to the island to find out why the natives had come up to speak to him, returning at night (according to instruction), he reported that the most important natives and inhabitants of the island had returned from an expedition into nearby enemy territory that same day, so his visit had come to nothing; dito, we took the sun's altitude at sunset at $26^{\circ} 10'$, taking into account our own position at $17^{\circ} 50'$, which makes a difference of $8^{\circ} 20'$ after subtraction, with a N.W. wind during the day.

On Tuesday 31st we took the sun's altitude at sunset at $9^{\circ} 45'$, applying the process of subtraction and halving the remaining figure leaves $8^{\circ} 16'$, arriving at the southern coast of the northern island, a north-westerly wind during the night and at present – with rain; in the morning the jurebass was again sent to the island, spending the entire day there, he presented himself (according to instructions) to the people taking heed of their wishes and disposition; though the islanders proved willing to settle for peace and commit themselves to their High Mightinesses the States-General and the Prince of Orange, they spoke of their fears of being captured; to win time the jurebass returned to the island in the evening accompanied by an experienced negotiator, carrying the Prince's flag (leaving a native hostage behind on board), to take away all feelings of suspicion and show our good intentions and sincerity; a north-westerly wind during the night, bringing rain as day broke.



FEBRUARY

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On Wednesday 1st, the special envoy and jurebass, after long-drawn-out negotiations with the principle native from the village of Wodgier and other inhabitants of the island, having come to the clear understanding that the islanders were ready and willing to submit themselves to the aforementioned Mightinesses and receive the Prince's flag, but that in order to guarantee their safety and protect them from attacks by hostile neighbours it would be necessary for the Dutch to talk to the native inhabitants of two other villages (or 'negris') near by, one called Salguadingh and the other Tutexanengh, as these wielded most power on the island of Aro, they promised to have these talks the following day, wind from the N.N.W. at night, with heavy rain.

On Thursday 2nd, the aforementioned envoy and jurebass returned to the island on the instruction to stay there (one or both of them) in case the Orancais proved too scared to come aboard; that day at noon a small boat ('arambaj') with three native boatmen approached my ship and the men came aboard, they had taken two of our men as hostages, having only partly understood our intentions as voiced by the jurebass, so we repeated our standpoint, expressing ourselves more elaborately, pointing out that provided they show us true friendship and renounce the concil of the banished Bandanese and people of Seram, they would be entitled to free trade relations with Amboina and Banda in return and could also count on the safe return of prisoners still alive on these islands, which appealed to them greatly, so they presented themselves - of their own accord - as willing servants of their High Mightinesses, and straightforwardly confirmed

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this by swearing their oath (the so-called ‘Mattacauw’), sprinkling their heads and brows with salt water, looking up towards the sun whilst mumbling, in the presence of the entire Council, which respectfully awarded them the Prince’s flag, they took their leave most amicably, promising to go to Amboina or Banda when the imminent eastern monsoon would allow them to do so; at night the wind N. by W. and N.N.W.; we had planned to hoist the sails immediately and pursue our journey, but the Pera was not yet ready (the mainmast was still in need of repairwork because of the broken spars), so we had to postpone our departure and did not leave until Saturday morning, on the 4th, the wind coming from N.N.W. at night, bringing rain.

On the morning of the 3rd rough winds raged from the N.N.W., causing the cable to break, and we lost our anchor; around noon a small vessel (‘arambaij’) approached, bringing aboard 8 natives from the villages of Bocan guamar, Bagambel, Maijcoor, Rato and Tarangan, they had learnt that the other three villages of Wodgier, Salguading and Tutexanengh had submitted to the authority of their High Mightinesses and His Excellency, they were willing to do the same, as they too were keen to get to Amboina and Banda for trade purposes, swearing an oath in a similar fashion (as described already), it was decided that they should also be honoured with the Prince’s flag and they left in good spirits expressing feelings of friendship; with this vessel a native from one of the first three villages had also come along, carrying a large book which he presented to us on behalf of these villages, and all the natives present most sincerely asked us to return to their villages on our next journey to their part of the world,

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in exchange we honoured them by a present of four ‘tapis’ [rugs] and then we parted as friends; a north-westerly wind during the night, with rain. On Saturday 4th we set sail before a cool north-westerly wind, then the yard broke - not far off from the island, and while getting out to sea we crossed a sandbank of three fathoms, its width about a mile - similar to the sandy patch along the eastern coast of the the island, by the evening the winds turned towards

the north, which made it impossible to sail along the northern islands of Aro, and we were forced to settle for the old mooring place; during the night stormy blasts hit us from the north with heavy downpours.

On Sunday 5th we sailed for four hours with a south-easterly wind, steady during daytime; so we drifted with the wind behind us, getting back on the aforementioned course, but as soon as we realised there was a strong current westwards, no longer leaving us any room for manoeuvring, we decided to fix the problem of the lost anchor and broken yard by improvisation, going ashore to find ourselves suitable pieces of wood; a N.N.E. wind all day and night. On the morning of the 6th we suffered a cold easterly wind, the current towards the west as strong as ever, and heavy seas brought in from the east, causing huge waves, in the afternoon the wind turned S.E. by E., so we made sail again, heading for an island which a number of maps refer to as Ceram, while others call it de Papeua, course held N.E. by N., turning N.N.E. towards the evening, it fell a calm at midnight, our progress has been about 6 miles.

NOTE

Though the island of Aro is shown to be just one island on every map, it consists of more than six islands altogether, the most northern one (near to which we cast anchor) at a latitude of $5^{\circ} 30'$, the others at a distance of a mile or less, the largest island stretching towards the S. and S.S.W. about nine miles from its northern extremity to the west, 21 miles away from the island of Qeij E. and W., which will all be evident on future maps,

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when in reference to our voyage, these islands will be depicted as empty and similar to one another, devoid of mountains or hills, surrounded by good anchoring-ground of 7, 8, 9, 10 (or even more) fathoms of clayey substance, their surface is sandy, rough and in places quite stony, and their coastline is rugged showing promontories and coves, and a maximum of 4 or 5 high rocks, on the north side these are very near to the shore; the islands are overgrown with a variety of high trees, which produce wood particularly suitable for making masts, ships, canoes and other kinds of boats, also the soil is especially fertile for growing

a vast range of plants, and there is water in abundance because of many man-made wells, which compensate for a total lack of natural rivers. The islands yield plentiful supplies of pith from the sago palm, 'pauwen', coconuts, bananas, 'ceripinang', 'belingbings' and a number of 'nanche' trees, but no 'dorion' trees, mangroves, 'lance' or 'canarii' trees; we also found much 'ubii', 'caladii', corn and a small amount of rice, and there were many pigs, goats, chicken, 'casawarisen' and birds of paradise, which the so-called 'neighbours' ('alfures') kill by shooting arrows, there is also a strange animal, the size of a goat, short- and red-haired, no horns, with rather long hind legs and short forelegs, which is called an Or; the islands are densely populated, there are about 50 villages to our knowledge, with houses built on large, thick poles (for fear of being ransacked by enemies close at hand), some villages can supply about 400 to 500 able bodied men, none of the villages dispose of fortresses or castles, their military power depends solely on the hundred or so canoes, which can take about 30 to 40 men each; the people are black- skinned, they are tall and their bodies are well proportioned, they do not seem to be of evil intent, some have straight hair, others show curls, they walk around naked, except for their private parts, which they cover with a tiny piece of cloth, they are heathens and have no knowlegde of God, they worship the sun and the water, they are expert bowmen and keen fishermen (using hooks), they are excellent carpenters and experienced boatmen (canoeing and rowing in small boats), they are not ruled by a king, but each village has a native head who is regarded as chief,

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though he cannot undertake any action or make a decisions without informing the entire community. They wage war, but this is never directed against a foreign enemy, but always concerns inland strife, involving neighbouring villages and their population of 'alfures', who live inland; the water surrounding these islands is white, because of the clayey soil, but there is good fish galore. Their fishing methods involve the use of hives and balls, but hooks are used also, cast from small boats like 'prauwen' and 'mahulen', which are of good quality and are used in great numbers, arrows too are put into practice as fishing tools, and allow the natives to catch fish while walking along the beach, no other handmade objects

are available except for (small) crafts like ‘arambaijs’, ‘prauwen’ and ‘mahulen’, precious metals, such as gold, silver, pewter, iron, lead, copper and mercury, are wholly absent, no precious stones or pearls can be found either, or anything precious for that matter, though some natives have knowledge of for example precious metals, because at one time they maintained contact with the people of Banda, and still undertook trips into Bandanese waters; in short, the island of Aro does not produce anything but the aforementioned particular kinds of fruit and animals, which are edible and may be taken aboard, to make good for the lack of old iron, poor selection of scanty cloths and other objects of little value; this is a truthful account of life on Aro based on our own research and careful enquiry.

In the morning of the 7th the wind was N.E. with a tolerable breeze, course held N.N.W., we saw high land ahead both on the lee and the weather bow; at noon latitude $4^{\circ} 57'$, sailed three miles on the said course; for the rest of the day we had a calm, towards the evening the wind went round to S.E., course held N.E. by E., sailed 4 miles.

On Sunday the 8th the wind was S. by W., with rain; course held N.E. by E., at noon latitude $4^{\circ} 27'$, sailed 4 miles on the said course. We then went on a N.E. course, with a variable wind, which at last fell to a calm; towards evening after sunset the wind turned to S. by E., we sailed with the fore- and mizen- sails only on an E. course, sailed three miles to E.S.E.

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In the night the two yachts ran foul of each other in tacking, but got no damage worth mentioning. The latter part of the night we drifted in a calm without sails until daybreak.

In the morning of the 9th we made sail again and with a weak N.E. wind held our course for the land: somewhat later in the day the wind turned to N.W., at noon we were in latitude $4^{\circ} 17'$ and had the south-coast of the land east slightly north of us, course and wind as before; in the evening we were close inshore in 25 fathom clayey ground, but since there was no shelter there from sea-winds, we again turned off the land, and skirted along it in the night with small sail, seeing

we had no knowledge of the land and the shallows thereabouts; variable wind with rain.

NOTE

The same day the plenary council having been convened, it was determined and fixed by formal resolution to continue our present course along the coast, and if we should come upon any capes, bights, or roads, to come to anchor there for one or two days at the utmost for a landing, in which we shall run ashore in good order with two well-manned and armed pinnaces, to endeavour to come to parley with the inhabitants and generally inspect the state of affairs there; in leaving we shall, if at all practicable, seize one or two blacks to take along with us; the main reason which has led us to touch at the island aforesaid being, that certain reports and writings seem to imply that the land which we are now near to, is the Gouwen-eylandt, which it would be impossible to call at on our return-voyage in the eastern monsoon, if we are to obey our orders and instructions.

In the morning of the 10th, the wind being N.W. by north, being close inshore, we again held our course for the land; somewhat later in the day we had West wind

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with a hard gale, with which we sailed along the coast; about noon we cast anchor in 12 fathom clayey bottom without any shelter from the W.N.W. wind; when we were at anchor there, the pinnacle of the Pera, in conformity with the above resolution was sent ashore well-manned and armed, under command of the sub-cargo, but the heavy rolling of the sea made it impossible to effect a landing. We accordingly made a man swim ashore through the surf, who deposited a few small pieces of iron on the beach, where he had observed numerous human footprints; but as nothing more could be done, the pinnacle went back to the yacht, which we could not get round to eastward owing to the strong current; we were accordingly forced to weigh the anchor again, and drift with the current, and thus ran on along the coast till the first watch, when we cast anchor, it being a de ad calm and we having no knowledge of the water.

In the morning of the 11th we took the sun's altitude, which we found to be 8° , we being in $14^{\circ} 14'$, which makes a difference of $6^{\circ} 14'$. When we had sailed along the land for about a mile's distance we cast anchor in 9 fathom muddy bottom and sent the pinnace ashore in the same fashion as last time, but earnestly charged the subcargo to use great caution, and to treat with kindness any natives that he should meet with, trying if possible to lay hands on some of them, that through them, as soon as they have become somewhat conversant with the Malay tongue, our Lords and Masters may obtain reliable knowledge touching the productions of their land. At noon we were in Latitude $4^{\circ} 20'$; at night when our men returned with the pinnace, they informed us that the strong surf had prevented them from landing, and that they had accordingly, for fully two miles' distance, rowed up a fresh-water river which fell into the sea near the yacht, without, however, seeing or hearing any human beings, except that in returning they had seen numerous human footprints near the mouth of the river:

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and likewise two or three small huts made of dry grass, in which they saw banana-leaves and the sword of a sword-fish, all which they left intact in conformity with their orders; they also reported that the interior is very low-lying and submerged in many places, but that 5, 6, or 7 miles from the coast it becomes hilly, much resembling the island of Ceram near Banda.

NOTE.

[The skipper of the Aernem and nine persons along with him, slain by the savages, in consequence of their want of caution.] This same day the skipper of the yacht Aernem, Dirck Melisz(oon) without knowledge of myself, of the subcargo or steersman of the said yacht, unadvisedly went ashore to the open beach in the pinnace, taking with him 15 persons, both officers and common sailors, and no more than four muskets, for the purpose of fishing with a seine-net; there was great disorder in landing, the men running in different directions, until at last a number of black savages came running forth from the wood, who first seized and tore to pieces an assistant, named Jan Willemsz(oon) Van den Briel who happened to be unarmed, after which they slew with arrows, callaways (spears)

and with the oars which they had snatched from the pinnacle, no less than nine of our men, who were unable to defend themselves, at the same time wounding the remaining seven (among them the skipper, who was the first to take to his heels); these last seven men at last returned on board in very sorry plight with the pinnacle and one oar, the skipper loudly lamenting his great want of prudence, and entreating pardon for the fault he had committed.

In the evening the wind West with a very stiff breeze, so that we did not sail in the night, considering our ignorance of these waters and our fear of cliffs and shallows that might lie off the coast, which in every case we had to keep near to, if we wanted to get further north.

On Sunday morning the 12th we set sail again with a stiff breeze from the west; we held our course E. by S. along the land, and sailed 14 miles that day; in the evening we altered our course to E.S.E., with a N.W. wind; in the night

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we had variable wind and weather, so that we kept drifting; in the day-watch the skipper of the Aernem, Dirck Melisz., died of the wounds received the day before, having suffered grievous pains shortly before his death.

In the morning of the 13th the wind was N.E. with fair weather and little wind, so that we ran near the land again; at noon we were in Lat. $4^{\circ} 25'$; the wind West with a very stiff breeze, course held East by South, and by computation sailed 10 miles until the evening; in the night the wind was variable; towards daybreak it came on to rain; at $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles' distance from the low-lying land we were in 28 fathom, black sandy bottom, the land bearing East and West.

In the morning of the 14th the wind was East with a faint breeze, which continued for the rest of the day; we kept tacking; in the evening the wind was N.E. by N. with a very strong current setting westward.

On the 15th before daybreak the wind was N. by W. with a stiff breeze, course held East by South; in the morning we took the sun's altitude at sunrise, which we found to be 7 degrees; at night ditto $21^{\circ} 30'$; the difference being divided by two comes to $7^{\circ} 15'$; somewhat later in the day, the wind being N.E. by N., we were

five miles or upwards from the land in 33 fathom, drifting rapidly to westward; at noon we were in Lat. $4^{\circ} 51'$, the wind W. by N.; course held N.E. by E. towards the land; shortly after the wind became due North; from the morning to the evening we had sailed 6 miles, and in 36 hours had been driven back, i.e. westward, at least 11 miles.

This same day the plenary council having been convened, it has been deemed advisable to appoint another skipper in the Aernem in the room of the deceased, to which place has been appointed a young man, named Willem Joosten van Colster [van Coolsteerdt], second mate in the Pera, as being very fit for the post,

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while at the same time the second mate Jan Jansz(oon) has been named first mate in the said yacht.

In the morning of the 16th we took the sun's altitude at sunrise, which we found to be $50^{\circ} 6'$; the preceding evening ditto $20^{\circ} 30'$; the difference being divided by two comes to $7^{\circ} 42'$; increasing North- easterly variation; the wind N. by E.; we were at about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile's distance from the low-lying land in 5 or 6 fathom, clayey bottom; at a distance of about 10 miles by estimation into the interior, we saw a very high mountain-range in many places white with snow, which we thought a very singular sight, being so near the line equinoctial. [Marginal note: Mountains covered with snow.] Towards the evening we held our course E. by S. along half-submerged land in 5, 4, 3 and 2 fathom, at which last point we dropped anchor; we lay there for five hours, during which time we found the water to have risen 4 or 5 feet; in the first watch, the wind being N.E., we ran into deeper water, and came to anchor in 10 fathom, where we remained for the night.

In the morning of the 17th the wind was N.E. with a faint breeze with which we set sail, course held S.E.; at noon we were in Lat. $50^{\circ} 24'$, and by estimation 5 miles more to eastward than on the 15th last, seeing that a very strong current had driven us fully 11 miles to westward; in the evening we found ourselves at 3 miles' distance from the land, and dropped anchor in 15 fathom, having in the course of the day sailed three miles E. by S. and E.S.E.

In the morning of the 18th the wind was N.E. with a strong breeze and a strong current setting to the west; in the afternoon the wind went round to the S.W., so that we meant to set sail with it, but as it fell a dead calm we had to remain at anchor.

In the morning of the 19th the wind was N.E. by N., so that we made sail, keeping an E.S.E. course along the coast, with a strong current setting westward; at noon we were in Lat. $5^{\circ} 27'$; it then fell calm and we had continual counter-currents, so that we cast anchor in 14 fathom, having sailed $21\frac{1}{2}$ miles;

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the land bearing from us E.S.E., slightly South; towards the evening the wind went round to S.S.W., so that we set sail again and ran on S.E. 1 mile; when it became dark - we cast anchor in 6 fathom.

At noon on the 20th the wind was S. and shortly after S.W., with which we set sail, keeping our course E. by S. and S.E. along the land in 6 fathom; in the evening we cast anchor at about 3 miles' distance from the land, having sailed 5 miles this day.

On the 21st the wind was N.E. by N. with a weak breeze and the current running south straight from the land, which is no doubt owing to the outflow of the rivers which take their source in the high mountains of the interior. The eastern part of the high land, which we could see, bore from us N.E. and N.E. by N.; in the morning we set sail with a N.W. wind and fair weather, course held S.E. by E. and S.E. for three miles, and then S.S.E. for five miles; in the evening we dropped anchor in 7 fathom about 3 miles from the land, the wind blowing hard from the west with violent rains.

In the morning of the 22nd the wind was N., a strong gale with rain and a strong current setting westward, so that we were compelled to remain at anchor; towards the evening the wind went round to W. S.W., with dirty weather, so that we got adrift by our anchor getting loose, upon which we dropped our large anchor to avoid stranding; in the afternoon the storm subsided and we had variable winds.

In the morning of the 23rd we set sail, course held S.E. with a S.W. wind and violent rains; when we had run a mile, the heavy swells forced us to drop anchor;

in the afternoon we lifted anchor with great difficulty and peril owing to the violent rolling of the yacht, and set sail, but shortly after, the yacht Aernem making a sign with her flag that she could not manage to heave her anchor, we cast anchor again.

In the morning of the 24th the weather was unruly, with a W. wind and a very hollow sea; in the afternoon the weather getting slightly better,

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both the yachts set sail again with the wind as before, holding a S. by E. course; in the evening we dropped anchor in 14 fathom, having sailed 4 miles S.S.E., and found the land to extend E.S.E. ever since the 20th instant.

In the morning of the 25th we set sail with a N.N.W. wind, sailing 4 miles on an E.S.E. course, and then 5 miles on a S. by E. and S.S.E. course, after which the foretop-mast of the Aernem broke, so that we were both compelled to drop anchor in 10 fathom about 4 miles from the land.

In the morning of the 26th we set sail to get near the Aernem and speak to her crew, who were engaged in repairing the rigging and replacing the foremast; we both drifted with the current in the teeth of the wind, and thus ran 3 miles, when the Aernem cast anchor 1 1/2 mile from us on the weather-side; in the evening there was a strong current from the W.S.W. with rain, which lasted the whole night.

NOTE.

[Marginal note: Here end the mountains of the western extremity of Nova Guinea.] The high-lying interior of Ceram ends here, without showing any opening or passage (through which we might run north according to our plan), and passes into low-lying half-submerged land, bearing E.S.E. and S.E. by E. extending in all likelihood as far as Nova Guinea, a point which with God's help we mean to make sure of at any cost; on coming from Aru to the island of Ceram, the latter is found to have a low-lying foreland dangerous to touch at, since at 6, 8 and 9 miles' distance from the same, the lofty mountains of the interior become visible, the low foreland remaining invisible until one has got within 3 or 4 miles from the land; the high mountains are seen to extend fully

thirty miles to eastward, when you are north of Aru; as seen from afar, the land seems to have numerous pleasant valleys

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and running fresh-water rivers; here and there it is overgrown with brushwood and in other places covered with high trees; but we are unable to give any information as to what fruits, metals and animals it contains, and as to the manner of its cultivation since the natives whom we found to be savages and man-eaters, refused to hold parley with us, and fell upon our men who suffered grievous damage; after the report, however, of some of the men of the yacht Aernem, who being wounded on the 11th aforementioned, succeeded in making their escape, the natives are tall black men with curly heads of hair and two large holes through their noses, stark naked, not covering even their privities; their arms are arrows, bows, assagays, callaways and the like. They have no vessels either large or small, nor has the coast any capes or bights that might afford shelter from west- and south-winds, the whole shore being clear and unencumbered, with a clayey bottom, forming a good anchoring-ground, the sea being not above 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 fathom in depth at 1, 2, and more miles' distance from the land; the rise and fall of the water with the tides we found to be between 1 1/2 and two fathom.

In the morning of the 27th the wind was W.N.W. with dirty weather and a very high sea, so that the Aernem was unable to heave her anchor in order to get near us, on which account we both of us remained at anchor the whole day; towards the evening the weather became much worse with pouring rains, so that we dropped another anchor; in the day-watch the cable of our large anchor broke without our perceiving it, and the other anchor getting loose, we drifted slowly to eastward; the land here extended E.S.E. and W.S.W.

In the morning of the 28th the Aernem was no longer in sight, so that we resolved to set sail in order to seek her; holding our course S.W., we ran on for three miles, after which we saw on our lee land bearing S.W. which we would not sail clear of; we therefore dropped anchor in 9 fathom, the weather still continuing dirty with rain and wind, and a strong ebb from the E.S.E. running flat against the wind; the water rising and falling fully two fathom at every tide.



MARCH

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On the first the wind was W. by N. with rain: we find that in these latitudes the southern and northern moon makes high water; at noon we weighed anchor and drifted with the current, which set strongly to westward.

On the second the wind was west with fair weather, with which we found it impossible to weather the land; in the evening we were in Lat. $6^{\circ} 45'$.

In the morning of the third the wind was W., with a strong gale and rain; at noon we had fair weather so that myself and the council determined to set sail on a Northern course in order to seek the yacht Aernem; when we had run on the said course for the space of 5 glasses, we saw the said yacht N.W. of us, but since the current ran very strong in our teeth, we dropped anchor in 10 fathom.

In the morning of the 4th the wind was north, with which we set sail in order to get near the Aernem; but when we had sailed for an hour, the headwind and counter-current forced us to drop anchor.

The yacht aforesaid, which was lying above the wind and the current, now weighed her anchor and dropped the same near the Pera, after which the skipper of the Aernem came on board of us in the pinnace, and informed me that they had very nearly lost the yacht in the storm before mentioned, since all the seas they had shipped had found their way into the hold, which got so full of water that the greater part of their rice, powder and matches had become wet through; this same day I sent the skipper and the steersman of the Pera on board the yacht Aernem in order to inquire into her condition, and ascertain whether she was so weak and disabled as had been reported to me; since the persons committed

reported that the yacht was very weak and disabled above the waterline, it has been resolved that the main-topmast, which they had already taken down by way of precaution, should not be put up again provisionally.

The same day we set sail again with the wind as before,

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course held S.W., and after running on for two miles, we cast anchor again in 11 fathom.

In the morning of the 5th we set sail again, with a W. wind; course held S.S.W.; when we had run on for two miles we got change of weather with variable winds; in the evening we came to anchor in 13 fathom; the same position to a comet of 60 53'.

On the 6th we set sail again before daybreak, the wind being West; course held S.S.W., sailed three miles; about noon, the wind blowing straight for the coast, we cast anchor in 5 1/2 fathom at a mile's distance from the coast, and, in conformity with the resolution, fetched a light anchor from the yacht Aernem.

In the morning of the 7th we set sail again, the wind being N.E., course held W., in order to get a little farther off the land; when we had run a mile, we dropped anchor in 5 1/2 fathom, and I went ashore myself with two well-manned and armed pinnaces, because on the 6th aforesaid we had seen 4 or 5 canoes making from the land for the yachts;

[Marginal note: Keerweer formerly mistaken for islands.] when we got near the land we saw a small canoe with three blacks; when we rowed towards them, they went back to the land and put one of the three ashore, as we supposed, in order to give warning for the natives there to come in great numbers and seize and capture our pinnaces; for as soon as we made towards them, they tried to draw us on, slowly paddling on towards the land; at last the "jurebass" swam to them, with some strings of beads, but they refused to admit him; so we made signs and called out to them, but they paid little or no attention, upon which we began to pull back to the yacht without having effected anything; the blacks or savages seeing this, slowly followed us, and when we showed them beads and iron objects,

they cautiously came near one of our pinnaces; one of the sailors in the pinnace inadvertently touching the canoe with one of his oars, the blacks forthwith began to attack our men, and threw several

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callaways into the pinnace, without, however, doing any damage owing to the caution used by the men in her; in order to frighten them the corporal fired a musket, which hit them both, so that they died on the spot; we then rowed back to the yachts. To the place on the coast where the aforesaid incident took place, we have given the name of Keerweer (= Turnagain) in the new chart, seeing that the land here trends to S.W. and West; its latitude being 7°.

On the 8th we had a strong gale from the S.S.W. the whole day, with rain and unsteady weather, so that we thought it best to remain at anchor. In the morning of the 9th the weather was fair, and the wind west, so that we set sail on a N.N.W. course; when we had run one mile we saw two groups of canoes putting off from shore and making for us, one consisting of 7, and the other of 8 small canoes; as we were lying close to the wind and could not weather the land with it, we came to anchor in 3 fathom; one of the canoes aforesaid came so near us, that we could call out to her, but the second group aforesaid kept quiet, upon which the canoe which had been near us, paddled towards this second group; from their various gestures we saw and understood sufficiently that their intentions had from the first been anything but peaceable, but God's Providence prevented them from carrying their wicked plans into effect; in the evening we set sail again with the current, the wind being west and our course held N.N.W.; in the first watch we turned our course S.W. and S.W. by W., on which we sailed the whole night, until about daybreak we found the water shallowing and dropped anchor in 2 1/2 fathom, having sailed 5 miles.

In the morning of the 10th we set sail again, the wind

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being W.N.W., on a S.W. course; at noon we were in Lat. 7° 35'; in the evening we came to anchor in 3 fathom muddy bottom, at about 1 1/2 mile's distance from the land.

NOTE

that it is impossible to land here with boats or pinnaces, owing to the clayey and muddy bottom into which a man will sink up to the waist, the depth of the water being no more than 3 or 4 fathom at 3 or 4 miles' distance from the land; the land is low-lying and half-submerged, being quite under water at high tide; it is covered with wild trees, those on the beach resembling the fir-trees of our country, and seemingly bearing no fruit; the natives are coal-black like the Caffres; they go about stark naked, carrying their privities in a small conch-shell, tied to the body with a bit of string; they have two holes in the midst of the nose, with fangs of hogs or swordfishes through them, protruding at least three fingers' breadths on either side, so that in appearance they are more like monsters than human beings; they seem to be evil-natured and malignant; their canoes are small and will not hold above 3 or 4 of them at most; they are made out of one piece of wood, and the natives stand up in them, paddling them on by means of long oars; their arms are arrows, bows, assagays and callaways, which they use with great dexterity and skill; broken iron, parangs and knives are in special demand with them. The lands which we have up to now skirted and touched at, not only are barren and inhabited by savages, but also the sea in these parts yields no other fish than sharks, sword-fishes and the like unnatural monsters, while the birds too are as wild and shy as the men.

In the morning of the 11th, the wind being W.N.W. and the weather fair, we set sail on a S.S.W. course along the coast in 4, 3 1/2 and 2 1/2 fathom muddy bottom; towards the evening we saw no more land ahead of us, the farthest extremity falling off quite to eastward, and extending east by south; we accordingly ran S.S.E., but it was not long before we got into 2 fathom water and even less. We therefore went

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over to the north, and in the evening dropped anchor in 3 fathom, having this day sailed eight miles to S.S.W. In the morning of the twelfth the wind blew from the N.W.; in the forenoon I rowed to the land myself with the two pinnaces well-manned and armed, in order to see if there was anything worth note there; but when we had got within a

musket-shot of the land, the water became so shallow that we could not get any farther; whereupon we all of us went through the mud up to our waists, and with extreme difficulty reached the beach, where we saw a number of fresh human foot-prints; on going a short distance into the wood, we also saw twenty or more small huts made of dry grass, the said huts being so small and cramped that a man could hardly get into them on all fours, from which we could sufficiently conclude that the natives here must be of small stature, poor and wretched; we afterwards tried to penetrate somewhat farther into the wood, in order to ascertain the nature and situation of the country, when on our coming upon a piece of brushwood, a number of blacks sprang out of it, and began to let fly their arrows at us with great fury and loud shouts, by which a carpenter was wounded in the belly and an assistant in the leg: we were all of us hard pressed, upon which we fired three or four muskets at them killing one of the blacks stone-dead, which utterly took away their courage; they dragged the dead man into the wood, and we, being so far from the pinnacles and having a very difficult path to go in order to get back to them, resolved to return and row back to the yachts. [Marginal note: The Valsch Caep is 8o 15' South of the equator and 70 miles S.E. of Aru.] The same day at low tide we saw a large sandbank, S.E., S., and S.W. of us, where we had been with the yacht on the 11th last, the said sandbank extending fully 4 miles South of the W., S.W. and W. by S. of the land or foreland; on which account we have in the new chart given to the same the name of

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de Valsch Caep; it is in Lat. 8° 15' South, and about 70 miles east of Aru.

NOTE

that the land which we have touched at as above mentioned, is low-lying and half-submerged to northward, so that a large part of it is under water at high tide; to the south it is somewhat higher and inhabited by certain natives who have built huts there; so far as we could ascertain the land is barren, covered with tall wild trees; the natives quite black and naked without any covering to hide their privy parts; their hair curly in the manner of the Papues: they wear certain fish-bones through the nose, and through their ears pieces of tree-bark, a span in length, so

that they look more like monsters than like human beings: their weapons are arrows and bows which they use with great skill.

On the 13th the wind was N., the weather fair, and the current stronger to west than to northward; we set sail in the forenoon, holding our course W.N.W. in order to get into deeper water; when we had run some distance, we got into eight feet of water; upon which we turned back and towards evening came to anchor in 2 fathom.

On the 14th the weather was fair, the wind N. by W., the current running strongly to S.W., as before; at noon we sent out the two pinnaces to take soundings; they rowed as far as 2 miles W.N.W. of the yachts, and nowhere found more than 1 1/2 and 2 fathom of water; the same day, seeing that the weather is now getting more constant every day, it was resolved to put up again the main-topmast in the yacht Aernem, which had been taken down before on account of bad weather.

On the 15th the wind was N.N.E. with good weather and the current as strong as before; we set sail at noon with the tide running from the N.W., hoping to get into deeper water, but having been tacking about till the evening, we were by counter-currents forced to come to anchor in three fathom.

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On the 16th the weather was good, the wind being N.E. by N.; we set sail in the forenoon; in the course of the day we had a calm; towards the evening the wind went round to W.S.W., course held N.N.W. along the shallows in 2 1/2 and 2 fathom; in the evening we came to anchor in 3 fathom; we find that in these parts the currents set very strongly to south-west, as before mentioned, and that the water rises and falls fully 1 1/2 and 2 fathom at each tide.

On the 17th the wind was East; we set sail, holding a W.N.W. and W. by N. course, and thus got into deeper water upwards of 5 fathom; at noon we were in Lat. 8° 4'; in the evening we cast anchor in 6 fathom, having sailed 4 miles W.S.W. In the morning of the 18th the weather was good with a W. wind; in the afternoon we set sail with the rising tide running from the west; course held S.W. by S. in 6 fathom; when we got into deeper water than 7 and 8 fathom, we altered our course to S.E. by E. and E.S.E. in 10, 12, 14, 18, 20, 26 and 28 fathom; towards

evening we went on an Eastward course, having sailed 5 1/2 miles on the aforesaid course from the morning to the evening, and 9 miles to eastward from the evening till the morning. On the 19th the wind was W., course held E., with the Valsch Caep N.N.E. of us at 5 miles' distance, the land extending N. by W.; the water being 24 fathom here, we went over to E.N.E. and sailed 4 miles, when we got into 6 fathom, where we cast anchor about 4 miles from the land.

On the 20th the wind was N.N.E., with good weather; we set sail, holding our course as before in 6 fathom; at night we dropped anchor in 5 1/2 fathom, having sailed 7 1/2 miles this day.

On the 21st we set sail again in the morning with a N.N.W. wind, keeping a N.E. course for 4 miles in 4 fathom; in the afternoon we went over to eastward sailing 8 miles; in the evening we came to anchor in 7 fathom, near an island situated a mile or upwards

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South and North of the mainland; a quarter of a mile N. by E. and S. by W. of the island there is a rock with two dry trees on it.

On the 22nd, the council having been convened, it has finally been resolved to land with two pinnaces properly manned and armed, seeing that the coast is covered with cocoa-nut trees here, and the land seems to be higher, better and more fertile than any we have seen before; and since we could not get ashore on account of the shallowness of the water, the muddy bottom and other inconveniencies, we rowed to the small island aforementioned; while we were making inspection of it, the yacht Aernem got adrift owing to the violent current and the strong gale, and ran foul of the bows of the Pera, causing grievous damage to both the ships; Pera lost its gallion equipment and several guns and Aernem lost its rudder; this accident detained our yachts for some days, and without God's special providence they would both them have run aground.

On the 23rd, the weather being good, and the council having once more been convened, I proposed to try every possible means to get the Aernem into sailing trim again, in the first place by constructing another rudder; this we found impossible since there were no new square rudders in either of the yachts; we were

accordingly compelled to try some makeshift, and in order to be able to continue our voyage and avoid abandoning the yacht, it was finally resolved that with the available materials there should be constructed a rudder after the manner of the Chinese and Javanese; for this purpose the Pera will have to give up her main-top mast, the rest of the required wood to be cut on the land, and we shall tarry here until the rudder has been replaced.

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On the 24th, while our men were engaged on the rudder, the subcargo rowed to the small island aforesaid with the two pinnaces, in order to get fresh water for the Aernem, which was very poorly supplied with the same, and in the evening he returned on board again with four casks of water, which he had got filled with extreme difficulty.

On the 25th, the yacht Aernem being in sailing trim again, for which God be thanked, we set sail again with good weather and a favourable wind, holding our course along the land in 5 1/2, 6, and 6 1/2 fathom; in the evening we cast anchor in 2 1/2 fathom about 2 miles from the land, having sailed 10 miles this day.

NOTE

[The Vleermuys-Eylandt is in 8° 8' Lat., 40 miles east of the Valsch Caep.] that the island aforesaid is in 8° 8' Southern Latitude, about a mile south and north of the mainland as before mentioned; it is pretty high, having a great number of wild trees on the east-side, and being quite bare on the west-side; it is about a quarter of a mile in circumference, and is surrounded by numerous cliffs and rocks, overgrown with oysters and mussels; the soil is excellent and fit to be planted and sown with everything; by estimation it bears a hundred full-grown cocoanut-trees and a great many young ones; we also observed some banana- and oubi-trees; we besides found fresh water here, which comes trickling through the clay in small rills, and has to be gathered in pits dug for the purpose; the island also contains large numbers of bats living in the trees, on which account we have given to it the name of Vleermuys-Eylant [Bats' Island] in the new chart. We have seen no huts or human beings in it, but found unmistakable signs that there had been men here at some previous time.

[Marginal note: Clappes Cust (Cocoanut Coast).] On the 26th the weather was good, the wind N.N.W., course held S.E. by E. along the land in 5 fathom. In the forenoon 4 small canoes put off from the land and followed us; we waited for them to come alongside, and found they were manned with 25 blacks, who had nothing with them except their arms; they called out

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and made signs for us to come ashore; we then threw out to them some small pieces of iron and strings of beads, at which they showed great satisfaction; they paid little or no attention to the gold, silver, copper, nutmegs and cloves which we showed them, though they were quite ready to accept these articles as presents. Their canoes are very skilfully made out of one piece of wood, some of them being so large that they will hold 20 and even more blacks. Their paddies are long, and they use them standing or sitting; the men are black, tall and well-built, with coarse and strong limbs, and curly hair, like the Caffres, some of them wearing it tied to the neck in a knot, and others letting it fall loose down to the waist. They have hardly any beards; some of them have two, others three holes through the nose, in which they wear fangs or teeth of hogs or sword-fishes. They are stark-naked and have their privities enclosed in a conch-shell, fastened to the waist with a bit of string; they wear no rings of gold, silver, copper, tin, or iron on their persons, but adorn themselves with rings made of tortoiseshell or terturago, from which it may be inferred that their land yields no metals or wood of any value, but is all low-lying and half-submerged, as we have actually found it to be; there were also among them some not provided with paddies, but wearing two strings of human teeth round their necks, and excelling all the others in ugliness; these men carried on the left arm a hammer with a wooden handle and at one end a black conch-shell, the size of a man's fist, the other end by which they hold it, being fitted with a three-sided bone, not unlike a piece of stag's horn; in exchange for one of these hammers they were offered a rug, some strings of beads and bits of iron,

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which they refused, though they were willing to barter the same for one of the boys, whom they seemed to have a great mind to. Those who carry the hammers aforesaid would seem to be noblemen or valiant soldiers among them. The people are cunning and suspicious, and no stratagems on our part availed to draw them near enough to us to enable us to catch one or two with nooses which we had prepared for the purpose; their canoes also contained a number of human thigh-bones, which they repeatedly held up to us, but we were unable to make out what they meant by this. Finally they asked for a rope to tow the yacht to shore, but soon got tired of the work, and paddled back to the land in a great hurry. In the evening we cast anchor in three fathom about 3 miles from the land, having sailed 13 miles this day.

In the morning of the 27th the wind was W.N.W. with a stiff breeze, course held S.E. by S. and S.E., on which we sailed 7 miles, and afterwards E.S.E. 5 miles, in 5 1/2, 5 and 3 fathom; in the evening we came to anchor in 6 1/2 fathom, 3 1/2 miles from the land; a quarter of a mile farther to landward we saw a sandbank, on which the Aernem struck but got off again, for which God be praised.

On the 28th we set sail again, with a N.W. wind, on an eastern course towards the land, in various depths, such as 7, 9, 12, 4 and 5 1/2 fathom; at noon we were in 9° 6' S. Lat., having sailed 5 miles; from noon till the evening we ran on an E. by S. course a distance of 4 miles in 18, 12, 9, 7, 5 and 2 fathom, after which we cast anchor, and sent out the pinnace to take soundings; the water being found to become deeper nearer the coast, we again weighed anchor and sailed to the land, casting anchor finally in 4 fathom three miles from the coast.

In the morning of the 29th the wind was N.N.E. with fine weather; in the forenoon it was deemed advisable to send off the boat of the Pera with thirteen men and the steersman of the Aernem and victualled for four days, in order to take soundings and skirt the land, which extended E.N.E., for a distance of 7 or 8 miles.

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On the 30th the wind was N. with good weather, so that we also sent out the pinnacle of the Aernem in order to take soundings in various directions 2 or 3 miles from the yachts; at low water we saw various sandbanks and reefs lying dry, to wit E.S.E., S.S.W. and W.; in the afternoon the pinnacle of the Aernem returned on board, having found shallows everywhere at 2 miles' distance; towards the evening the boat of the Pera also returned, when we heard from the steersman that they had been E. by S. and E.S.E. of the yachts, at about 8 miles' distance, where they had found very shallow water, no more than 7, 8, 9 and 10 feet, which extended a mile or more, and was succeeded by depths of 2, 2 1/2, 3, 5 and 7 fathom; they had found the land to extend E. and E. by N., and to be very low-lying and muddy, and overgrown with low brushwood and wild trees.

On the 31st the wind was N.N.E. with rain; in the afternoon I rowed with the two pinnaces to one of the reefs in order to examine the state of things between the yachts and the land, which space had fallen dry at low tide; in the afternoon the skipper of the Pera also got orders to row to the land with the boat duly manned and armed, in order to ascertain whether anything could be done for the service of our Masters, and to attempt to get a parley with the inhabitants and to get hold of one or two of them, if practicable; very late in the evening the boat returned on board, and we were informed by the skipper that, although it was high water, they could not come nearer than to a pistol-shot's distance from the land owing to the shallow water and the soft mud; they also reported the land to be low-lying and half-submerged, over- grown with brushwood and wild trees.

NOTE.

[The Drooge Bocht, where we were compelled to leave the western extremity of Nova Guinea, is in 9° 20' S. Lat.] After hearing the aforesaid reports touching the little depths sounded to eastward we are sufficiently assured that it will prove impossible any longer to follow the coastline which we have so long skirted in an eastward direction,

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and that we shall, to our to great regret, be compelled to return the same way we have come, seeing that we have been caught in the shallows as in a trap; for this purpose we shall have to tack about and take advantage of the ebb, and as soon as we get into deeper water, to run south, to the sixteenth degree or even farther, if it shall be found advisable; then turn the ships' heads to the north along the coast of Nova Guinea, according to our previous resolution taken on the 6th of March last; as mentioned before, we were here in $9^{\circ} 6' S$, Lat., about 125 miles east of Aru, and according to the chart we had with us and the estimation of the skippers and steersmen, no more than 2 miles from Nova Guinea, so that the space between us and Nova Guinea seems to be a bight to which on account of its shallows we have given the name of drooge bocht [shallow bight] in the new chart; to the land which we had run along up to now, we have by resolution given the name of 't Westeinde van Nova Guinea (Western extremity of N.G.), seeing that we have in reality found the land to be an unbroken coast, which in the chart is marked as islands, such as Ceram and the Papues, owing to misunderstanding and untrustworthy information.



APRIL

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On the first the wind was W. by S. with good weather; we weighed anchor and drifted with the ebb running from the N.E.; when we had run 1 1/2 mile with the tide to the S.W., we came to anchor again in 6 fathom.

On the second, the wind being W. by N., we tried to tack about to the W. with the ebb-tide in 4, 5 and 6 fathom; we had variable winds the whole day; towards the evening we cast anchor in 4 fathom three miles from the land, having this day progressed 4 miles to the W. and W. by N.

On the third we set sail again at daybreak, the wind being N., course kept W.N.W. in 7, 2, and 1 1/2 fathom,

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the water in these parts being of greatly varying depths, so that we had to keep sounding continually; in the afternoon we dropped anchor in 4 fathom, having drifted 2 1/2 miles with the ebb-tide.

On the 4th, the wind being N.E. by N., we set sail again with good weather; in the afternoon we ran on with the tide and cast anchor in 7 fathom, having lost sight of the land, and sailed 8 miles W. and W. by N.

NOTE.

Here we managed with extreme difficulty and great peril to get again out of the shallows aforesaid, into which we had sailed as into a trap, between them and the land, for which happy deliverance God be praised; the shallows extend South and

North, from 4 to 9 miles from the mainland, and are 10 miles in length from East to West.

On the fifth we set sail again at daybreak, the wind being E.N.E., on courses varying between S.W. and S., by which we got into deeper water, between 14 and 26 fathom, and sailed 18 miles in the last 24 hours.

On the sixth the wind was S.W. with rain, course held S.E.; at night we were in Lat. 9o 45', having sailed 11 miles to the E.S.E. in the last 24 hours.

On the 7th, the wind being S.S.E., we ran on an Eastern course in 15 or 16 fathom, and sailed 4 miles till the evening; at nightfall we went over to S.E, and cast anchor in 4 fathom, but as the yacht was veering round, we got into 2 fathom, having sailed three miles E.S.E. during the night.

In the morning of the 8th we clearly saw several stones lying on the sea-bottom, without perceiving any change in the water in which we had sounded 26 fathom; so that the land here, which we did not see, is highly dangerous to touch at, but through God's providence the yachts did not get aground here; at noon we set sail, being in 10o 15' S. Lat., the wind being W. by S. and afterwards variable; we sailed S.S.W. till the next morning in 10 and 10 1/2 fathom, and covered 6 miles.

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On the 9th the wind was N. with rain, course held S.E.; at night the wind went round to S.E.; we therefore came to anchor in 11 fathom, having sailed 5 miles this day.

In the morning of the 10th the wind was E.N.E., course held S.E. in 9, 10, and 11 fathom; at night the wind blew from the S.E., upon which we cast anchor, having sailed 5 miles this day.

On the 11th the wind was E. by N. with a fair breeze, course kept S.S.E.; at noon we were in 11o 30'; the whole of this day and night we tried to get south with variable winds and on different courses, and sailed 22 miles in the last 24 hours; course kept S.E.

In the morning of the 12th the wind was S.E. with good weather; at sunrise we saw the land of Nova Guinea, showing itself as a low-lying coast without hills or mountains; we were then in 13 1/2 fathom, clayey bottom; course held S.S.W.; at

noon we were in Lat. 11o 45' South, having sailed 10 miles on a S.E. course in the last 24 hours.

In the morning of the 13th the wind was S.E. by E. and we were in 24 fathom; we still saw the land aforementioned and found it to be of the same shape as before; course held S.W.; at noon we were in 12o 53'; for the rest of day and night we tried to get south with the winds aforesaid and on varying courses, having sailed 22 miles in the last 24 hours; course kept S.W.

On the 14th the wind was E. by S., course held S. by E. along the land in 11, 12, 13, and 14 fathom; at noon we were in Lat. 13o 47', the land being no longer in sight. The rest of the day and the whole night we tried to get the land alongside with divers winds and on varying courses in 7, 6, 6, 4, 3, and 2 1/2 fathom; towards daybreak we were so near the land that one might have recognised persons on shore.

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In the morning of the 15th the wind blew hard from the East; course held S. by E. in 3 and 2 1/2 fathom along a sandbank, situated about one mile from the mainland; at noon we were in 14o 30' The land which we have hitherto seen and followed, extends S. and N.; it is low-lying and without variety, having a fine sandy beach in various places. In the afternoon we dropped anchor owing to the calm, having sailed 11 miles South. Great volumes of smoke becoming visible on the land, the subcargo got orders to land with the two pinnaces, duly manned and armed, and was specially enjoined to use his utmost endeavours for the advantage of Our Masters; when the pinnaces returned at nightfall, the subcargo reported that the pinnaces could get no farther than a stone's throw from the land, owing to the muddy bottom into which the men sunk to their waists; but that they had in various places seen blacks emerging from the wood, while others lay hid in the coppice; they therefore sent a man ashore with some pieces of iron and strings of beads tied to a stick, in order to attract the blacks; but as nothing could be effected and the night was coming on, they had been forced to return to the yachts.

In the morning of the 16th, being Easter-day, the wind was East; we set sail, holding our course S. by E.; at noon we were in 14° 56'; in the evening we came to

anchor in 5 1/2 fathom, having sailed 10 1/2 miles, course kept South.

In the morning of the 17th the wind was S. by W., with rain and the tide setting to the south; at noon the wind went round to East, so that we made sail, course held S. by W., along the land in 4 1/2 fathom; towards the evening, it fell a calm, so that we dropped anchor with the ebb, after which I went ashore myself with the two pinnaces duly

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provided with men and arms; we went a considerable distance into the interior, which we found to be a flat, fine country with few trees, and a good soil for planting and sowing, but so far as we could observe utterly destitute of fresh water. Nor did we see any human beings or even signs of them; near the strand the coast was sandy with a fine beach and plenty of excellent fish.

In the morning of the 18th the wind was E.N.E., course held S. by W. along the land; about noon, as we saw persons on the beach, we cast anchor in 3 1/2 fathom clayey bottom; the skipper of the Pera got orders to row to land with the two pinnaces, duly provided for defence; in the afternoon when the pinnaces returned, we were informed by the skipper that as soon as he had landed with his men, a large number of blacks, some of them armed and others unarmed, had made up to them; these blacks showed no fear and were so bold as to touch the muskets of our men and to try to take the same off their shoulders, while they wanted to have whatever they could make use of; our men accordingly diverted their attention by showing them iron and beads, and espying vantage, seized one of the blacks by a string which he wore round his neck and carried him off to the pinnace; [Marginal note: Seized a black in 15o.] the blacks who remained on the beach, set up dreadful howls and made violent gestures, but the others who kept concealed in the wood remained there. These natives are coal-black, with lean bodies and stark naked, having twisted baskets or nets round their heads; in hair and figure they are like the blacks of the Coromandel coast, but they seem to be less cunning, bold and evil-natured than the blacks at the western extremity

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of Nova Guinea; their weapons, of which we bring specimens along with us, are less deadly than those we have seen used by other blacks; the weapons in use with them are assagays, shields, clubs and sticks about half a fathom in length; as regards their customs and policy and the nature of the country, Your Worships will in time be able to get information from the black man we have got hold of, to whom I would beg leave to refer you.

[Marginal note: The Jurebass passed away.] The same day the accompanying Jurebass from Aru (after having been ill for only two days) passed away, and because he had had a terrible pain, we agreed to have the barber open his body, and it was seen that he had much clotted blood around his haert, which apparently caused his death.

On the 19th, the wind being S.E, we remained at anchor, and since the yachts were very poorly provided with firewood, the skipper of the Pera went ashore with the two pinnaces duly manned and armed; when the men were engaged in cutting wood, a large number of blacks upwards of 200 came upon them, and tried every means to surprise and overcome them, so that our men were compelled to fire two shots, upon which the blacks fled, one of their number having been hit and having fallen; our men then proceeded somewhat farther up the country, where they found several weapons, of which they took some along with them by way of curiosities. During their march they observed in various places great quantities of divers human bones, from which it may be safely concluded that the blacks along the coast of Nova Guinea are man-eaters who do not spare each other when driven by hunger.

On the 20th, the wind being S.E., we set sail on a S.S.W. course; at noon we came to anchor with the ebb-tide running from the South, in 31/2 fathom clayey bottom, and ordered the skipper

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to go ashore with the two pinnaces, duly provided for defence, and diligently inquire into the state of things on shore, so far as time and place should allow; when he returned in the evening, he informed us that the surf had prevented them from getting near the strand, so that there could be not question of landing.

In the morning of the 21st, the wind being S.E., we set sail; course held S.S.W. along the land; at noon we were in $15^{\circ} 38'$; in the evening we came to anchor with the ebb in $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathom.

In the morning of the 22nd the wind was E.N.E., course held South; at noon we were in $16^{\circ} 4'$; the wind being W. by N. we dropped anchor towards the evening in $2\frac{1}{2}$ fathom, about one mile from the land.

On the 23rd the wind was N.N.E., with a stiff breeze, so that we set sail on a S.S.W. course along the land in $3\frac{1}{2}$, 3, $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 fathom, clayey bottom; at noon we were in $16^{\circ} 32'$; for the rest of the day we tried to get south with variable winds, and towards the evening came to anchor in 3 fathom close inshore.

On the 24th the wind was E. by S., course held S.S.W. along the land in $2\frac{1}{2}$, $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $4\frac{1}{2}$ fathom, clayey bottom; at noon we were in $17^{\circ} 8'$. This same day the council having been convened, I submitted to them the question whether it would be advisable to run further south, and after various opinions had been expressed, it was agreed that this would involve divers difficulties, and that the idea had better be given up: we might get into a vast bay, and it is evident that in these regions in the east-monsoon north- winds prevail, just as north (?) of the equator south-winds prevail in the said monsoon: we should thus fall on a lee-shore; for all which reasons, and in order to act for the best advantage of the Lords Managers, it has been resolved and determined to turn back, and follow the coast of

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Nova Guinea so long to northward as shall be found practicable; to touch at divers places which shall be examined with the utmost care, and finally to turn our course from there to Aru and Quey to establish contacts and friendship with the Orancais and peoples (being newly attracted subjects of their High Mightinesses the States-General, of his Excellency the Prince of Orange etc. and of the lords managers of the United East India Company of the United Provinces); it was furthermore proposed by me and ultimately approved of by the council, to give 10 pieces of eight to the boatmen for every black they shall get hold of on shore, and carry off to the yachts, to the end that the men may use greater care and diligence in this matter, and Our Masters may reap benefit from the capture of the blacks,

which may afterwards redound to certain advantage.

On the 25th the skipper of the Pera got orders to go ashore with the two pinnaces well-manned and armed, in order to make special search for fresh water, with which we are very poorly provided by this time; about noon the skipper having returned, informed us that he had caused pits to be dug in various places on the coast, but had found no fresh water. Item that on the strand they had seen 7 small huts made of dry hay, and also 7 or 8 blacks, who refused to hold parley with them. In the afternoon I went up a salt river for the space of about half a mile with the two pinnaces; we then marched a considerable distance into the interior, which we found to be submerged in many places, thus somewhat resembling Waterland in Holland, from which it may be concluded that there must be large lakes farther inland; we also saw divers footprints of men

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and of large dogs, running from the south to the north; and since by resolution it has been determined to begin the return-voyage at this point, we have, in default of stone caused a wooden tablet to be nailed to a tree, the said tablet having the following words carved into it: "Anno 1623 den 24n April zijn hier aen gecomen twee jachten wegen de Hooge Mogende Heeren Staten Genl." [A. D. 1623, on the 24th of April there arrived here two yachts dispatched by their High Mightinesses the States-General]. [Marginal note: The Staten Revier is in 17o 8'.] We have accordingly named the river aforesaid Staten revier in the new chart.

On the 26th, seeing that there was no fresh water here, of which we stood in great need, that we could hold no parley with the natives, and that nothing of importance could be effected, we set sail again, the wind being E.N.E., with a stiff breeze, course held N. along the land; at noon we were in Lat. 16° 44'; at night we came to anchor in 4 fathom close inshore.

NOTE

that the yacht Aernem, owing to bad sailing, and to the small liking and desire which the skipper and the steersman have shown towards the voyage, has on various occasions and at different times been the cause of serious delay, seeing that the Pera (which had sprung a bad leak and had to be kept above water by more

than 8000 strokes of the pump every 24 hours) was every day obliged to seek and follow the Aernem for one, two or even more miles to leeward.

On the 27th, the wind being E. by S. with good weather, the skipper of the Pera rowed ashore with the two pinnaces duly provided for defence, in order to seek fresh water, but when he had caused several pits to be dug, no water was found; we therefore set sail forthwith, holding a S.E. by E. course along the land; at noon we were in Lat. 16° 30', and with a W. by N. wind made for the land, sailing with our foresail only fully two hours before sunset, in order to wait for the Aernem which was a howitzer's shot astern of us; in the

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evening, having come to anchor in 3 fathom 1 1/2 mile from the land, we hung out a lantern, that the Aernem might keep clear of us in dropping anchor; but this proved to be useless, [Marginal note: The yacht Aernem left the Pera.] for on purpose and with malice prepense she cut away from us against her instructions and our resolution, and seems to have set her course for Aru (to have a good time of it there), but we shall learn in time whether she has managed to reach it.

In the morning of the 28th the wind was E. by S. and the weather very fine; the skipper once more went ashore with the pinnace in order to seek water, but when several pits had been dug in the sand, they found none; we therefore set sail again on a N.E. by N. course along the land in 2, 3, 4 and 5 fathom, but when we had run a distance of 2 1/2 miles, a violent landwind drove us off the land, so that we had to drop anchor in 3 fathom, the blacks on shore sending up such huge clouds of smoke from their fires that the land was hardly visible; at night in the first watch we set sail again and after running N.N.E. for 3 1/2 miles, we came to anchor in 2 fathom.

In the morning of the 29th the wind was S.E., with good weather; course held N.E. by E. along the land in 2 1/2 and 3 fathom; when we had run 1 1/2 mile we came to anchor in 2 fathom, and landed here as before in order to seek fresh water; we had some pits dug a long way from the strand, but found no fresh water; the blacks showed themselves from afar, but refused to come to parley, nor did we succeed in luring any towards us by stratagem; [Marginal note: The Nassauw revier is in 16° 10'.] at noon we were in 16° 10' near a river which in the chart is

marked Nassauw revier: when we saw that we could do nothing profitable here, we set sail with an E. wind on a N.N.E. course along the land, and came to anchor in the evening in 21/2 fathom.

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In the morning of the 30th the wind was S.E. with steady weather; course held N.N.E. along the land in 3 fathom; at noon we were in 15o 39', and came to anchor in 21/2 fathom; we landed also here as before with the pinnace in order to look for water, and to see if we could meet with any natives; after digging a number of pits we found no water, so that we set sail again and came to anchor in the evening in 21/2 fathom.

MAY.

In the morning of the first the wind was E.; the skipper once more rowed ashore with the pinnace, and having caused three pits to be dug he at last found fresh water forcing its way through the sand; we used our best endeavours to take in a stock of the same; about 400 paces north of the farthest of the pits that had been dug, they also found a small fresh-water lake, but the water that collected in the pits was found to be a good deal better.

In the morning of the second the wind was E.N.E., and went round to S.W. later in the day; we continued taking in water.

On the 3rd we went on taking in water as before; the wind was N.E., and about noon turned to S.W.; I went ashore myself with 10 musketeers, and we advanced a long way into the wood without seeing any human beings; the land here is low-lying and without hills as before, in Lat. 15o 20'; it is very dry and barren, for during all the time we have searched and examined this part of the coast to our best ability, we have not seen one fruit-bearing tree, nor anything that man could make use of; there are no mountains or even hills, so that it may be safely concluded that the land contains no metals, nor yields any precious woods, such as sandal-wood, aloes or columba.

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In our judgment this is the most arid and barren region that could be found anywhere on the earth; the inhabitants, too, are the most wretched and poorest creatures that I have ever seen in my age or time; as there are no large trees anywhere on this coast, they have no boats or canoes whether large or small; this is near the place which we touched at on the voyage out on Easter-day, April the 16th; [Marginal note: The Waterplaats is in 15o 13'.] in the new chart we have given to this spot the name of Waterplaets; at this place the beach is very fine, with excellent gravelly sand and plenty of delicious fish.

In the morning of the 4th the wind was E.N.E. with good weather, course held N. in 7 1/2 fathom; we could just see the land; at noon we were in 15o 12' Lat.; slightly to northward we saw a river to which we have given the name of Vereenichde revier: [Marginal note: Vereenichde revier.] all through the night the wind was W., course held N.N.E. towards the land.

In the morning of the 5th the wind was E., course held N.; at noon we were in 14° 12' Lat.; shortly after the wind went over to W., upon which we made for the land and cast anchor in 2 fathom; I went ashore myself in the pinnace which was duly armed; the blacks here attacked us with their weapons, but afterwards took to flight; upon which we went landinward for some distance, and found divers of their weapons, such as assagays and callaways, leaning against the trees; we took care not to damage these weapons, but tied pieces of iron and strings of beads to some of them, in order to attract the blacks, who, however, seemed quite indifferent to these things, and repeatedly held up their shields with great boldness and threw them at the muskets; these men are, like all the others we have lately seen, of tall stature and very lean to look at, but malignant and evil-natured.

In the morning of the 6th, the wind being East, we set sail on a N. course along the land in 3 and 4 fathom; at noon, when we were in 13° 29' Lat., the wind was W.; in the evening it went round to East, upon which we dropped anchor in 3 fathom.

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In the morning of the 7th the wind was S.E. with fine weather; the skipper went ashore with the pinnace, with strict orders to treat the blacks kindly, and try

to attract them with pieces of iron and strings of beads; if practicable, also to capture one or more; when at noon the men returned, they reported that on their landing more than 100 blacks had collected on the beach with their weapons, and had with the strong arm tried to prevent them from coming ashore; in order to frighten them, a musket was accordingly fired, upon which the blacks fled and retreated into the wood, from where they tried every means in their power to surprise and attack our men; these natives resemble the others in shape and figure; they are quite black and stark naked, some of them having their faces painted red and others white, with feathers stuck through the lower part of the nose; at noon, the wind being E., we set sail on a N. course along the land, being then in 13o 20' Lat.; towards the evening the wind went round to W. and we dropped anchor in 31/2 fathom.

In the morning of the 8th, the wind being E.S.E. with good weather, I went ashore myself with 10 musketeers; we saw numerous footprints of men and dogs (running from south to north); we accordingly spent some time there, following the footprints aforesaid to a river, where we gathered excellent vegetables or pot-herbs; when we had got into the pinnace again, the blacks emerged with their arms from the wood at two different points; by showing them bits of iron and strings of beads we kept them on the beach, until we had come near them,

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[Marginal note: Seized a black.] upon which one of them who had lost his weapon, was by the skipper seized round the waist, while at the same time the quartermaster put a noose round his neck, by which he was dragged to the pinnace; the other blacks seeing this, tried to rescue their captured brother by furiously assailing us with their assagays; in defending ourselves we shot one of them, after which the others took to flight, upon which we returned on board without further delay; these natives resemble all the others in outward appearance; they are coal-black and stark naked with twisted nets round their heads; their weapons are assagays, callaways and shields; we cannot, however, give any account of their customs and ceremonies, nor did we learn anything about the thickness of the population, since we had few or no opportunities for inquiring into these matters; meanwhile I hope that with God's help Your Worships will in time get

information touching these points from the black we have captured, to whose utterances I would beg leave to refer you; [Marginal note: The river Coen is in 13o 7' Lat.] the river aforesaid is in 13o 7' Lat., and has in the new chart got name of Coen river; in the afternoon the wind being W., we set sail on a N. course along the land, and in the evening came to anchor in 3 fathom.

NOTE

that in all places where we landed, we have treated the blacks or savages with especial kindness, offering them pieces of iron, strings of beads and pieces of cloth, hoping by so doing to get their friendship and be allowed to penetrate to some considerable distance landinward, that we might be able to give a full account and description of the same; but in spite of all our kindness and our fair semblance the blacks received us as enemies everywhere, so that in most places our landings were attended with great peril; on this account, and for various other reasons afterwards to be mentioned, we have not been able to learn anything about the population of Nova Guinea, and the nature of its inhabitants and its soil; nor did we get any information touching its towns and villages, about the division of the land, the religion of the natives, their policy, wars, rivers, vessels, or fisheries;

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what commodities they have, what manufactures, what minerals whether gold, silver, tin, iron, lead, copper or quicksilver. In the first place, in making further landings we should have been troubled by the rainy season, which might have seriously interfered with the use of our muskets, whereas it does no harm to the weapons of the savages; secondly, we should first have been obliged to seek practicable paths or roads of which we knew nothing; thirdly, we might easily have been surrounded by the crowds of blacks, and been cut off from the boats, which would entail serious peril to the sailors with whom we always effected the landings, and who are imperfectly versed in the use of muskets; if on the contrary we had had well-drilled and experienced soldiers (the men best fitted to undertake such expeditions), we might have done a good deal of useful work; still, in spite of all these difficulties and obstacles, we have shunned neither hard work, trouble, nor peril, to make a thorough examination of everything with the means at our

disposal, and to do whatever our good name and our honour demanded; the result of our investigation being as follows:

the land between 13° and $17^{\circ} 8'$ is a barren and arid tract, without any fruit-trees, and producing nothing fit for the use of man; it is low-lying and flat without hills or mountains; in many places overgrown with brushwood and stunted wild trees; it has not much fresh water, and what little there is, has to be collected in pits dug for the purpose; there is an utter absence of bays or inlets, with the exception of a few bights not sheltered from the sea-wind; it extends mainly N. by E. and S. by W., with shallows all along the coast, with a clayey and sandy bottom; it has numerous salt rivers extending into the interior, across which the natives drag their wives and children by means of dry sticks or boughs of trees. The natives are in general utter barbarians, all resembling each other in shape and features, coal-black, and with twisted nets wound round their heads and necks for keeping their food in; so far as we could make out, they chiefly live on certain ill-smelling roots which they dig out of the earth. We infer that during the eastern monsoon they live mainly on the beach,

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since we have there seen numerous small huts made of dry grass; we also saw great numbers of dogs, herons and curlews, and other wild fowl, together with plenty of excellent fish, easily caught with a seine-net; they are utterly unacquainted with gold, silver, tin, iron, lead and copper, nor do they know anything about nutmegs, cloves and pepper, all of which spices we repeatedly showed them without their evincing any signs of recognising or valuing the same; from all which together with the rest of our observations it may safely be concluded that they are poor and abject wretches, caring mainly for bits of iron and strings of beads. Their weapons are shields, assagays, and callaways of the length of $1\frac{1}{2}$ fathom, made of light wood and cane, some with fish-bones and others with human bones fastened to their tops; they are very expert in throwing the said weapons by means of a piece of wood, half a fathom in length, with a small hook tied to it in front, which they place upon the top of the callaway or assagay.

In the morning of the 9th, the wind being E.S.E., with good weather, we set sail on a N.N.E. course along the land, and when we had run on for 2 miles, came to anchor in 9 fathom close inshore; I went ashore in person with ten musketeers, and found many footprints of men and of large dogs, going in a southerly direction; we also came upon fresh water flowing into the sea, and named the place de Waeterplaets. [Marginal note: The Waeterplaets is in 12° 33' Lat.] The land here is higher than what we have seen to southward, and there are numerous reefs close to the sandy beach; the place is in 12° 33'; in the afternoon the wind was S.W., course held as before; from the Waterplaets aforesaid to a high cape there is a large bay, extending N.E. by N. and S.W. by S. for 7 miles; in the evening we dropped anchor in 4 1/2 fathom.

In the morning of the 10th the wind being E.S.E., with steady weather, we set sail on a W.N.W. course; at noon we were in 12° 5'; I went ashore myself with the skipper, and as before found many footprints of

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men and dogs, going to the south; the land here is high and hilly, with reefs near the sandy beach; as we were pulling back to the yacht, some armed savages showed themselves, upon which we landed again and threw out some pieces of iron to them, which they picked up, refusing, however, to come to parley with us; after which we took to the pinnace again.

In the morning of the 11th, the wind being E.S.E. with good weather, we set sail again on a N.N.E. course along the land; in the afternoon we sailed past a large river (which the men of the Duifken went up with a boat in 1606, and where one of them was killed by the arrows of the blacks); to this river, which is in 11° 48' Lat., we have given the name of rivier de Carpentier in the new chart .

[Marginal note: The Carpentier river.]

In the morning of the 12th the wind was E.S.E., with pleasant weather; I went ashore myself with the skipper, and found upwards of 200 savages standing on the beach, making a violent noise, threatening to throw their arrows at us, and evidently full of suspicion; for, though we threw out to them pieces of iron and other things, they refused to come to parley, and used every possible means to

wound one of our men and get him into their power; we were accordingly compelled to frighten them by firing one or two shots at them, by which one of the blacks was hit in the breast and carried to the pinnacle by our men, upon which all the others retired to the hills or dunes; in their wretched huts on the beach we found nothing but a square-cut assagay, two or three small pebbles, and some human bones, which they use in constructing their weapons and scraping the same; we also found a quantity of black resin and a piece of metal, which the wounded man had in his net, and which he had most probably got from the men of the Duyfken; since there was nothing further to be done here, we rowed back to the yacht, the

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wounded man dying before we had reached her; at noon we set sail with a S.W. wind on a N.N.E. course along the land, and as it fell calm, came to anchor after having run on for 2 miles.

In the morning of the 13th, the wind being S.E. with good weather, we set sail on a N.E. by N. course in upwards of 7 fathom about 2 miles from the land; at noon we were in $11^{\circ} 16'$ Lat., the wind being E.; in the evening we came to anchor in 2 fathom near a river, which we have named Revier van Spult in the chart.

[Marginal note: Revier van Spult.]

On the 14th we made sail again before daybreak, with a S.E. wind and steady weather; from the 9th of this month up to now we have found the land of Nova Guinea to extend N.N.E. and S.S.W., and from this point continuing N. and S. I went ashore here myself with the skipper and 10 musketeers and found a large number of footprints of men and dogs going south; we also came upon a very fine fresh-water river, flowing into the sea, whence fresh water can easily be obtained by means of boats or pinnaces; the river is in $10^{\circ} 50'$, and is marked Waterplaets in the chart. [Marginal note: The Waterplaets is in $10^{\circ} 50'$ Lat.] The land here is high, hilly, and reefy near the sandy beach; seeing that nothing profitable could be effected here, we returned to the yacht, which was lying-by under small sail; towards the evening we were at about 1 mile's distance from three islets, of which the southernmost was the largest; five miles by estimation farther to northward we saw a mountainous country, but the shallows rendered (or render) it impossible for

us to get near it; in almost every direction in which soundings were taken, we found very shallow water, so that we sailed for a long time in 5, 4, 3, 2 1/2, 2, 1 1/2 fathom and even less, so that at last we were forced to drop, anchor in 1 1/2 fathom, without knowing where to look for greater or less depths; after sunset we therefore sent out the pinnacle to take soundings, which found deeper water a long way S.W.

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of the pinnacle, viz. 2, 3, and 4 1/2 fathom; we were very glad to sail thither with the yacht, and cast anchor in 8 1/2 fathom, fervently thanking God Almighty for his inexpressible mercy and clemency, shown us in this emergency as in all others.

In the morning of the 15th, the wind being S.E. with good weather, we set sail on a W. course, which took us into shallower water of 2, 2 1/2 and 3 fathom; we therefore went over to S.W., when we came into 3 1/2, 4, 5, 6 fathom and upwards; we had lost sight of the land here, and found it impossible to touch at it or follow it any longer, owing to the shallows, reefs and sandbanks and also to the E. winds blowing here; on which account it was resolved and determined - in order to avoid such imminent perils as might ultimately arise if we continued to coast along the land any longer - to turn back and hold our course first for the Vleermuijs Eijlant; we therefore stood out to sea on a W. course in 9 1/2 fathom and upwards, having sailed 17 miles in 24 hours, kept west, and finding no bottom in 27 fathom.

NOTE

that in our landings between 13° and 11° we have but two times seen black men or savages, who received us much more hostilely than those more to southward; they are also acquainted with muskets, of which they would seem to have experienced the fatal effect when in 1606 the men of the Duyffken made a landing here.

In the morning of the 16th, the wind was E.S.E. with good weather, the Eastern monsoon having set in; course held N.N.W., at noon we were in 10o 27', having sailed 30 miles in 24 hours.

In the morning of the 17th the weather was good with a strong wind; course held as before; at noon we were in 8° 43'; towards the evening, in 18 and 19 fathom, we

saw from the main-topmast land N.E. of us, when we were in 8o 19'; towards daybreak we passed a shallow of 4 and 4 1/2 fathom, on which we

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changed our course to S.W., having sailed 30 miles in 24 hours. In the morning of the 18th, sailing in 5 1/2 fathom, we saw land, being the western extremity of Nova Guinea; course held W., with a strong wind; at noon latitude as before; during the night we sailed with small sail along the land on the course aforesaid, having run 27 miles in 24 hours.

On the 19th, the wind as before, course held N.; at noon we were in 7° 57' Lat.; we ran on the same course for the rest of the day and night. In the morning of the 20th there was a strong wind; we were in 18 fathom and by estimation in 7° Lat., we therefore ran on a W. course towards the islands which are said to lie in this latitude; sailed 24 miles in 24 hours.

On the 21st the wind was as before, and since we saw no land or signs of land, which by the ships' reckoning and by estimation we ought to have seen, if there had been any here, we changed our course to northward, in order to run to the latitude of 5°, in which Aru is situated.

In the morning of the 22nd we were in 5° 38' Lat., with the wind as before, and since we estimated ourselves to be in the latitude of Aru, we turned our course westward; about noon we saw the island of Aru ahead of us, that is, the northern extremity, that lies in 5° 20'; towards the evening, while still a mile from land, we sailed into a reef by two little islands, but with diligent work and by running the anchor work, we came free again; thanks be to the Almighty Lord for His mercy shown to us in this as in all our other needs; in the evening we came to rest in 14 fathom.

On the morning of the 23rd, we approached shore on the southside of the second northern island of Aru and dropped anchor in 7 fathom before the village Wodgier, the place that we passed on the journey out, without seeing any signs of the yacht Aernem, which on the 27th of April last, when we were in 17° under Nova Guinea, willingly sailed away from Pera, and we heard also from the Aruese (who immediately

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came alongside with their prows) that they had not seen the aforesaid yacht. On the 24th, 25th and 26th, large crowds of natives with arambaijs, mahules and prows continued to come alongside with various refreshments, like coconuts, bananas, pumpkins, small beans, and some chickens, exchanging all this for old iron, which is in curiously high demand, and displayed such good will and openness, as if the Dutch nation had traded and corresponded with them for ten years; that same day an arambaijs with two orancais and some free men (to serve at our request as hostages) came aboard, and I personally with a following of 8 people and an 'ormat' or gift sailed to land, to speak with the orancais and people from the villages Wodgier, Tutewanengh, Salguadingh, Bocan, Guamar, Bagambel, Maijcoor, Rato and Tarangan, of the service of the High Mightinesses the States-General, of his Excellency the Prince of Orange etc. and of the Lords Managers of the United East India Company of the United Provinces; and finally entered into a written agreement with all the abovementioned, to serve all together as subjects of the High aforementioned Lords, solemnly confirm as a whole and each in particular with their 'mattacauw' or 'eet'; [Marginal note: we erected a wooden column on Aru, in the village Wodgier.] furthermore it was decided and allowed that a wooden column, for lack of stone, be nailed to the bailiff's office in the village Wodgier on said island; and carved into it the following words:

“Anno 1623 primo Febr. the yachts Pera and Arnem arrived here in Aru, commander Jan Carstensch., merchants Jan Bruwel and Pieter

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Lintges, skippers Jan Sluijs and Dirck Melisz., navigating officers Arent Martensch. and Jan Jansch., by order and commission of Ed. Hr. Gener. Jan Pietersen Coen, in name of the High Mightinesses the States-General, of his Excellency the Prince of Orange etc. and of the Lords Managers of the United East India Company of the United Provinces, and also on the 4th the island is taken into possession of the aforementioned Lords; also they, the orancais and the

people, pledged obedience and subjection to the aforementioned Lords and have received the Prince's flag.”

Having fulfilled this duty, we said a general goodbye to these people and returned on board, where the hostages had been treated well and with respect, and were also accompanied upon their departure by a small gift.

On the 27th and 28th the natives still continued bringing refreshments, and as before traded for old iron; the same people very quickly and willingly would do whatever people wanted them to do, and also at our request brought on board wood for a large topmast, mast and such, and were content to receive some old iron for their efforts. – and concerning what is important regarding the shape of the land, the population, the type of people, the cities, the populated areas, the distribution of riches, religion, politics, the wars, the waters, the vehicles, the fisheries, the goods and artifacts the island produces, of this we made note in folio 3 [page 8] as well as we could, in raw and informal style. – the same day we weighed anchor in the afternoon and sailed, the wind S.E., course W. to S., to the island Quey.

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On the 29th wind and course were the same as before, around midday we saw the aforementioned island ahead and at night in order to not pass said island we sailed a zigzag course.

On the 30th, the weather is good, the wind as before, and after noon we came to the west side of the island near a village named Waijer and dropped anchor in 12 fathom stony ground close to land, without any sight of the yacht Aernem.

On the 31st in the morning I personally went ashore with the pinnace, fitted with appropriate defenses, to talk to the orancais and peoples of the village, which went well considering expectations, and upon understanding our arrival and intent they were very happy, and pleased to pledge obedience and subjection to the High Mightinesses the States General, and when we finally returned on board the principal orancaij joined us, and was treated politely according to his merits, and departed in friendship.



JUNE

On the 1st I went ashore again with a retinue of 7 men and there I held a general council (the type of which the service to the Netherlands required), and finally they as subjects pledged obedience and subjection to the High aforementioned Mightinesses, and received the Prince's flag, and solemnly confirmed with their 'mattacauw' their promise, and furthermore they promised and gave their word to come, with the last of the East monsoon, with their vessel and merchandise to Amboyna or Banda. The same day we lifted anchor and sailed from there to another village, lying

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around 2 miles further south, named Laer, and it is one of the largest and most powerful on Quey.

On the 2nd we encountered a strong east wind or monsoon, and after 24 hours of plying against the wind in front of the village we dropped anchor in 9 fathom sandy ground, approximately a musket shot away from land; in the afternoon I went to land in the pinnace, appropriately manned and armed, with a peace flag and talked to the inhabitants, who, after they understood our meaning, showed themselves exceptionally polite towards us, and they came to the boat with various refreshments to trade, but as evening was already approaching we returned to the ship with the promise to return for more negotiations the next day.

On the 3rd a large crowd of natives in their 'arambaijs' and prows, with an abundance of refreshments, such as pigs, chickens, potatoes, 'ubij', coconut oil, canary, canary apples, and more, continued to come alongside, to exchange all of

this for old iron, that is in high demand; in the afternoon I personally landed with a following of ten men, and talked long and thoroughly, (all being gathered together) with the orancais and people of the aforementioned village Laer and another more southerly one Ada, and after it was clear to them who had sent us and what our message was, they were willing and ready to place themselves under the protection of the High Mightinesses Lords States-General (as the village Waijer had done), and also to together willingly pledge obedience and subjection to the High aforementioned Lords, with their ‘mattacauw’, to completely seal their oath,

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solemnly confirmed and they have reverently received the Prince’s flag that was handed to them with considerable respect; [Marginal note: A wooden column was erected on the island Quey, in the

village Laer.] also they wished and allowed for a wooden column (for lack of stone) to be erected in the village Laer, and carved into it the following words:

“Anno 1623, end of May, here in Quey arrived the yacht Pera, commander Jan Carstenz., merchant Pieter Lintges, skipper Jan Sluijs, and navigating officer Arendt Martensz., sent by order and commission of the Ed. Lord General Jan Pietersen Coen, for the High Mightinesses the States- General, His Excellency the Prince of Orange etc. and the Lords Managers of the United East India Company of the United Provinces, and they also on the 3rd took possession of the villages Waijer, Laer and Ada for the High aforesaid Lords and the orancais and their people pledged obedience and subjection to them and have received the Prince’s flag.”

Having fulfilled this task, they promised and pledged to come trade with their vessel and merchandise in Banda and Amboyna at the end of the East monsoon, and to act faithfully and loyally towards the Hollanders (whom they henceforth regard as brothers).

NOTE

We would have liked (without consideration of the trouble or danger) to have visited more outlying villages, but being on the east side ourselves (with the

ubiquitous monsoon, acting like a brick wall) it was undoable, and it was hard enough to sail to the aforementioned villages; also Quey can only be approached with the greatest of peril, due to the deep steep stony ground; also the southside is rather messy, with regards to a reef that stretches out a good 7 miles E. and W. into sea. Furthermore of interest is the shape of

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land, the inhabitants, the cities, the areas, what type of people, the politics, and what the island produces, of this we have made notes in folio 1 [page 4] in rough style in so far as we are able.

On the 4th the wind was S.E., and we sailed along with it, course W. and W. to the north to Banda, and sailed till the next morning 15 miles.

On the 5th around noon we passed three islands on port side and seven on starboard, as we had also seen on the trip out, wind and course were as before, and we sailed 16 miles in 24 hours.

On the 6th after noon we passed Rosengeijn and the island Groot Banda to the south, and Poulo-aij and Poulo-ron to the north, wind as before with rain.

On the 7th before noon we passed the island Nosselauw and the Oleassers W.N.W. with a strong wind.

On the 8th we rounded the corner of Rossenine and cast anchor before the castle Amboyna in the evening, thereby bringing the voyage to a safe conclusion (by the mercy and safekeeping of the Lord)

may He vouchsafe to grant prosperity and success in all their good undertakings to the High Mightinesses the States-General, to his Excellency the Prince of Orange etc., to the Lords Managers of the United East India Company and to the Worshipful Lord General and his Governors.

Remaining for ever

Their High Mightinesses' etc. obedient and affectionate servant (signed)

JAN CARSTENSZOOM

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