

which he was visiting Erromanga and the neighbouring islands. At this time Elau was only six years' old; though she came of such a barbarous race, she was a gentle, intelligent child, and during her voyage to England, gained the hearts of all who were on board. In person, she was certainly very unlike the rosy children of our country—her skin was a tawny brown, and her hair grew in small distinct tufts, which curled so closely as to appear much shorter than they really were; this kind of hair is peculiar to the Papuan race. But though her colour and features were unlike ours, this little girl had much mildness and good-humour in her disposition, which were expressed in her face, and you may depend upon it, these are the best ornaments a face can have.

On arriving in England, she was placed under the care of a lady at Plymouth, who was very kind to her, and instructed her in many things, above all, in that knowledge so far more valuable than any other—the knowledge of God, for all the inhabitants of her native country were (as I need hardly tell you) idolaters. Elau had learned to speak English tolerably while on board ship, and after her arrival in Plymouth, she soon learned to read and work; she was both intelligent and docile, and, therefore, made rapid progress in every thing which her kind friends taught her. She retained more distinct recollections of her native island than could have been expected, considering her extreme youth when she was taken away. One day, seeing the servant of the lady with whom she lived, engaged in cooking, she described to her