

group, has a circumference of about sixty miles. Concerning the number of inhabitants on the islands, the most contradictory accounts are given,—but it does not, probably, exceed twenty thousand.

10. The Sandwich Islands, the most northerly group of Polynesia, are included between the meridians of 154° and 161° W., and the parallels of 18° and 23° N. The inhabited islands are eight in number,—*Hawaii*, the largest and most southerly, covering a greater extent than all the rest united. It is about two hundred and fifty miles in circuit, and contains upwards of three thousand five hundred square miles. *Mau*i, *Oahu*, and *Tauai*, are the next in size; and *Tahoolave*, *Lanai*, *Molotai*, and *Niihau*, are comparatively unimportant. The population is about one hundred thousand, whereof rather more than a third are on the island of Hawaii.

Besides the groups before described, there are many smaller clusters and single islands which require to be mentioned. Five degrees due north of the Navigators are three coral islets, the largest of which was on no chart until surveyed by our Expedition, though it had been previously seen by a whaler. It was called by the natives *Fakaafo*, and was named by us Bowditch Island; the others, which lie west of it, are *Nukunono*, and *Oatafu*, known as the Duke of York's and the Duke of Clarence's Islands. The name of the Union Group was given to the three. The population does not probably exceed one thousand.

Ten degrees west of these is a similar group of three coral islets, which, though previously known, were first surveyed by our vessels. Their names are *Vaitupu*, or Tracy's Island, *Nukufetau*, or Depeyster's Island, and *Funafati*, or Ellice's Island. The largest is about ten miles in circumference. The natives were numerous, but we had no means of forming any estimate of the entire population.

North of the Friendly Group, in latitude $15^{\circ} 50'$ S., longitude 174° W., are two small high islands, discovered by Schouten, and named by him Cocoa and Traitor's Islands. They are each eight or ten miles in circumference, and are separated by a channel about a league in width. The native name is *Niua*, one of them being distinguished by the epithet *tabu*, or sacred. Ten degrees farther west is Good Hope Island, also discovered by Schouten, and called by the natives *Niua Fou*, or New Niua. At the same distance from this, in a north-west direction, are the Horn Islands, another discovery of the same navigator. These also, if our information is correct, are included in the general appellation of *Niua*. On the map, the name of *Allu Fatu*,