

(probably *Lua Fatu*, the Two Rocks,) is sometimes given to them. Like the first mentioned, they are small in extent, but lofty, and separated by a narrow channel. The number of inhabitants on these islands is unknown, but it cannot exceed three or four thousand.

North of the Niua Group, and west of the Navigators, in $13^{\circ} 26'$ of south latitude, and about 176° of west longitude, is *Uea*, or Wallis's Island, which is a compact cluster of one high and several coral islets.

Tikopia, in latitude $12^{\circ} 30'$ S., longitude 169° E., is the most westerly island now known to be inhabited by people of the Polynesian race. It is seven or eight miles round, with a population of about five hundred.

Fotuna (or *Erronan*) and *Niua* (or *Immer*) are two small hilly islands, a few miles east of Tanna, one of the New Hebrides. Though so near to and constantly communicating with the dusky inhabitants of this group, the natives retain the physiognomy and language of the Polynesian race.

Chatham Island, twelve degrees east of New Zealand, is peopled by a few hundred natives, who are said to have the customs and speak the dialect of the New Zealanders.

Savage Island lies about four degrees east of the Friendly Group; it is small in extent, moderately elevated, and has but a scanty population.

Penrhyn Island is the name given to a small ring of coral islets in latitude 9° S., longitude 158° W., or midway between the Marquesas and Union Groups. The inhabitants were found to be numerous in proportion to the size of the island.

Easter Island, or *Vaihu*, the most easterly of the Polynesian islands, is situated in latitude 27° S., longitude $109^{\circ} 50'$ W. It is about thirty miles round, and is supposed to have not far from two thousand inhabitants.

From the foregoing enumeration it will appear that the entire population of Polynesia does not reach half a million. There is, perhaps, no people which, in proportion to its numbers, has been the subject of so much interest and of such minute investigation. This may be ascribed in part to the character of the natives, in itself more pleasing and attractive than that of most savages, but principally it is due to the peculiar position of the islands which they inhabit, scattered over a vast ocean, which has been, for the last hundred years, ploughed by the keels of every maritime power. In the course of our voyage we visited six out of the ten principal groups, namely, the