

MONDAY 7th. Little wind southerly and serene pleasant weather. In the PM found the Variation by Several Azimuths to be 8° East. At sunset the Northermost land in sight bore N 26° East, and some broken land that appear'd to form a Bay boare N 40° West distant 4 Leagues, this bay I named *Broken Bay*, Latitude 33°36' s. We steerd along shore NNE all night at the distance of about 3 Leagues from the land having from 32 to 36 fathom a hard sandy bottom. A little after Sun rise I tooke several Azimuths with four Needles belonging to the Azimuth Compass the mean result of which gave the Variation 7°56' East. At Noon we were by observation in the Latitude of 33°22' s and about 3 Leagues from the land, the northermost part of which in sight bore N 19° East. Some pritty high land which projected out in three bluff points and occasioned my calling it *Cape Three points* (Lat^{de} 33°33') bore sw distant 5 Leagues. Longitude made from Botany Bay 0°19' East.

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[Cook continued cautiously up the coast, without incident, beyond modern Brisbane and round Sandy Cape.]

WEDNESDAY 23rd. Continued our Course along shore at the distance of about 2 Miles off having from 12 to 9, 8 and 7 fathom water untill 5 oClock at which time we were abreast of the South point of a large open bay where in I intended to anchor, accordingly we hauld in close upon a wind and sent a boat ahead to sound. After making some trips we anchor'd at 8 oClock in 5 fathom water a Sandy bottom. The South point of the Bay bore E³/₄South distance 2 Miles, the north point NW¹/₄N about 2 Miles from the Shore in the bottom of the bay. Last Night some time in the Middle watch a very extraordinary affair happend to M^r Orton my Clerk, he having been drinking in the Evening, some Malicious person or persons in the Ship took the advantage of his being drunk and cut off all the cloaths from off his back, not being satisfied with this they some time after went into his Cabbin and cut off a part of both his Ears as he lay asleep in his bed. The person whome he suspected to have done this was M^r Magra one of the Midshipmen, but this did not appear to me upon inquirey. However as I know'd Magra had once or twice before this in their drunken frolicks cut of his Cloaths and had been heard to say (as I

was told) that if it was not for the Law he would Murder him, these things consider'd induce'd me to think that Magra was not altogether innocent. I therefore, for the present dismiss'd him the quarter deck and sussed him from doing any duty in the Ship, he being one of those gentlemen, frequently found on board Kings Ships, that can very well be spared, or to speake more planer good for nothing. Besides it was necessary in me to show my immedate resentment against the person on whome the suspicion fell least they should not have stoped here. With respect to M^r Orton he is a man not without faults, yet from all the enquiry I could make, it evidently appear'd to me that so far from deserving such treatment he had not designedly injured any person in the Ship, so that I do and shall all ways look upon him as an enjure'd man. Some reasons might however be given why this misfortune came upon him in which he himself was in some measure to blame, but as this is only conjector and would tend to fix it up [on] some people in the Ship whome I would fain believe would hardly be guilty of such an act[i]on, I shall say nothing about it unless I shall hereafter discover the Offenders which I shall take every method in my power to do, for I look upon such proceedings as highly dangerous in such Voyages as this and the greatest insult that could be offer'd to my authority in this Ship, as I have always been ready to hear and redress every complaint that have been made against any Person in the Ship.³⁹

In the AM I went a shore with a party of men in order to examine the Country accompanied by M^r Banks and the other gentlemen. We landed a little within the South point of the Bay where there is a channel leading into a large Lagoon. The first thing I did was to sound and examine this channel in which I found 3 fathom water untill I got about a Mile up it, where I met with a Shoal whereon was little more than one fathom, being over this I had 3 fathom again. The entrance into this channel lies close to the South point of the Bay

39. Three weeks later Cook decided that Magra was innocent and restored him to duty. The midshipman Patrick Saunders was disrated to AB on this day, presumably because of his part in the affair. At Batavia, a reward was offered for information about the person responsible. Saunders deserted (never to be heard of again) and it was assumed that it was he who mutilated Orton.

being form'd on the East by the shore and on the West by a large spit of sand, it is about a quarter of a Mile broad and lies in SBW; here is room for a few ships to lay very secure and a small Stream of fresh water. After this I made a little excursion into the woods while some hands made 3 or 4 hauls with the Sain but caught not above a dozen very small fish; by this time the flood was made and I embarked in the boat in order to row up the Lagoon but in this I was hindered by meeting every where with shoal water. As yet we had seen no people but saw a great deal of smook up and on the west side of the Lagoon which was all too far off for us to go by land excepting one; this we went to and found 10 small fires in a very small compass and some cockle shells laying by them but the people were gone. On the windward or South side of one fire was stuck up a little bark about a foot and a half high and some few pieces lay about in other places; these we concluded were all the covering they had in the night and many of them I firmly believe have not this but naked as they are Sleep in the open air, Tupia who was with us observed that they were *Taata Eno's* that is bad or poor people. The Country is visibly worse than at the last place we were at, the Soil is dry and Sandy and the woods are free from under-wood of every kind. Here are of the same sort of trees as we found in Botany Bay with a few other sorts; one sort which is by far the most numerous of any in the woods grows something like birch, the bark at first sight looks like birch bark but upon examination I found it to be very different and so I believe is the wood, but this I could not examine as having no ax or any thing with me to cut down a tree. About the skirts of the Lagoon grows the true Mangrove such as are found in the West Indias and which we have not seen during the Voyage before, here is likewise a sort of a Palm tree which grows on low barren and sandy places in the South Sea Islands. All or most of the same sorts of land and water fowl as we saw at Botany Bay we saw here, besides these Black & white Ducks, and Bustards such as we have in England one of which we killd that weigh'd 17½ pounds which occasioned my giving this place the name of *Bustard Bay* (Lat^d 24°4' Long^d 208°22'). Here are plenty of small oysters sticking to the Rocks, stones and Mangrove trees and some few other shell fish such as large Musels, Pearl oysters, Cockels &c^a. I measured the

perpendicular height of the last tide and found it to be 8 feet above low-water mark and from the time of low-water to day I found that it must be high water at the full and change of the Moon at 8 oClock.

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[Now began the most difficult navigation of the entire voyage as the Endeavour groped its way along the coast through shoals and islands, usually with two boats ahead, in the charge of the Master (Robert Molyneux), taking soundings.]

TUESDAY 29th. Fresh gales between the SSE and ESE Hazy we' with some showers of rain in the PM. Having sounded about the Shoal we at 3 oClock weigh'd and came to sail and stood to the westward as the land lay having first sent a boat ahead to sound. At 6 o'Clock we Anchor'd in 10 fathom water a sandy bottom about 2 Miles from the Main land, the westernmost part of which bore WNW having still a number of Islands in sight a long way without us. At 5 oClock in the AM I sent away the Master with two boats to sound the entrance of an inlet which bore from us west distant about one League, into which I intended to go with the Ship to wait a few days untill the Moon increased and in the Mean time to examine the Country. By such time as we had got the Ship under Sail the boats made the signal for anchor[a]ge upon which we stood in with the Ship and Anchor'd in 5 fathom water about a League within the entrance of the inlet, which we judged to be a River runing a good way inland. As I observed the tides to flow and Ebb something considerable I had some thoughts of laying the Ship a shore to clean her bottom. With this View both the Master and I went to look for a convenient place for that purpose and at the same time to look for fresh water, not one drop of which we could find, but met with several places where a Ship might be laid a shore with safety.

WEDNESDAY 30th. In the PM I went again in search of fresh water but had no better success than before, wherefore I gave over all thoughts of laying the Ship a shore being resolved on spending as little time as possible in a place that was likely to afford us no sort of refreshment, but as I had observed from the hills the Inlet to run a good way in

land I thought this a good time to penetrate into the Country to see a little of the inland parts. Accordingly I prepar'd for making that excursion in the morning, but the first thing I did was to get upon a pritty high hill which is at the NW entrance of the inlet before sunrise in order to take a view of the Sea coast and Islands &c^a that lay off it, and to take their bearings. . . . As soon as I had done here I proceeded up the Inlet. I set out with the first of the flood and long before high-water got above 8 Leagues up it, its breadth thus far was from 2 to 4 or 5 Miles upon a swbs dire[c]tion, but here it spread every way and formd a large lake which commun[i]cates with the Sea to the NW; I not only saw the Sea in this direction but found the tide of flood coming Strong in from the NW. I likewise observed an arm of this lake extending to the eastward and it is not att all improbable but what it communicates with the sea in the bottom of the bay which lies to the westward of *C. Townshend*. On the south side of the lake is a ridge of pretty high hills which I was desireous of going upon, but as the day was far spent and high-water I was afraid of being bewilderd among the Shoals in the night, which promised to be none of the best being already rainy dirty weather, and therefore I made the best of my way to the Ship. In this little excursion I saw only two people and those at a distance and are all that we have seen in this place, but we have met with several fire places and seen smooks at a distance. This Inlet which I have named *Thirsty Sound* by reason we could find no fresh water lies in the Latitude of 22°05' s and Longitude 210°24' West. It may be known by a Group of small Islands laying under the shore from 2 to 5 Leagues NW from it, there is likewise another Group of Islands laying right before it between 3 and 4 Leagues out at Sea. Over each of the points that form the entrance is a pretty high round hill, that on the NW is a peninsula surrounded by the Sea at high-water, the distance from the one to the other is about two Miles bold to both shores. Here is good anchorage in 7, 6, 5 & 4 fathom water and very convenient places for laying a Ship aShore where at Spring tides the tides doth not rise less then 16 or 18 feet and flowes at full and change of the Moon about a 11 oClock. We met with no fresh water or any other kind of refreshments whatever, we saw two turtle but caught none nor no sort of fish or wild fowl except a few small land birds.

Here are the same sort of water fowl as we saw in *Botany Bay* and like them so Shy that it is hardly possible to get within shott of them. No signs of fertillity is to be seen upon the land, the Soil of the uplands is mostly a hard redish Clay and produceth several sorts of trees such as we have seen before and some others and clear of all under wood. All the low lands are mostly over run with Mangroves and at spring tides over flowed by the Sea, and I beleive in the rainy seasons here are large land floods as we saw in many places gullies which seem'd to have been made by torrents of water coming from the adjacent hills, besides other vissible signs of the water having been a considerable height above the common spring tides. D' Solander and I was upon a rising ground up the Inlet which we thought had at one time or a nother been over flowed by the Sea, and if so great part of the Country must at that time been laid under water. Up in the lakes or Lagoons I suppose are shell fish on which the few natives subsist. We found oysters sticking to most of the rocks upon the Shore which were so small as not to be worth the picking off.

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[The tortuous progress continued. There were regular indications of the inhabitants, who kept their distance. On 4 June they negotiated the passage between Whitsunday Island and the main. An additional problem for Cook was finding names for all the bays and points they encountered, and the journal shows considerable uncertainty about which notable was to be offered which bay. On 8 June Hicks, Banks and Solander went ashore to get coconuts, but the trees proved to be 'a small kind of Cabbage Palms'. They were now (unbeknownst) entering the funnel where the Great Barrier Reef converges with the coast.]

[JUNE 1770]

SATURDAY 9th. Winds between the South and SE a gentle breeze and clear weather: with which we steer'd NBW as the land lay, the northern extreme of which at sun set bore N 25° West. We kept on our Course under an easy sail all night having from 12 to 15 fathom water at the distance of about 3 or 4 Leagues from the land. At 6 oClock in the AM we were abreast of some small Islands which we call'd *Frankland Isles* that lay about two Leagues from the main land the northern point

of which in sight bore NBW^{1/2}W but this we afterwards found to be an Island tolerable high and about 4 Miles in circuit. It lies about 2 Miles from the point on the Main between which we went with the Ship and were in the Middle of the Channel at Noon and by observation in the Latitude of 16°55', where we had 20 fathom water. The point of land we were now abreast off I call'd *Cape Grafton* (Lat^{de} 16°55' s, Long^{de} 214°11' west) it is tolerable high land and so is the whole coast for 20 Leagues to the southward and hath a very rocky surface which is thinly cover'd with wood. In the night we saw several fires along shore and a little before noon some people.

SUNDAY 10th. After hauling round *Cape Grafton* we found the land trend away NWB. Three miles to the Westward of the Cape is a Bay wherein we anchor'd about 2 Miles from the shore in 4 fathom water an owsey bottom. The East point of the bay bore s 74° East, the west point s 83° West and a low green woody Island laying in the offing bore N 35° East. This Island lies NBE^{1/2}E distant 3 or 4 Leg^s from *Cape Grafton*, and is known in the Chart by the name of *Green Island*. As soon as the Ship was brought to an Anchor I went ashore accompanied by M^r Banks and D^r Solander, the first thing I did was to look for fresh water and with that View rowed out towards the Cape because in the bottom of the Bay was low mangrove land and little probability of meeting with any there, but the way I went I found two small streames which were difficult to get at on account of the surff and rocks upon the shore. As we came round the Cape we saw in a Sandy Cove a small stream of water run over the beach, but here I did not go in the boat because I found that it would not be easy to land. We hardly advance[d] any thing into the Country, it being here hilly which were steep and rocky and we had not time to viset the low lands and therefore met with nothing remarkable. My intention was to have stay'd here at least one day to have looked into the Country had we met with fresh water convenient or any other refreshment, but as we did not I thought it would be only spending time and looseing so much of a light moon to little purpose, and therefore at 12 oClock at night we weigh'd and stood away to the NW, having at this time but little wind attended with showers of rain. At 4 oClock the breeze freshend