

naturally form a cruel and vindictive character. such these islanders seemed to us on our first visiting them. the sight of beings so extraordinary for thus we europeans must have appeared to them excited in their savage minds the greatest wonder; and they thought we were sent as a scourge and an enemy; and though cook, one of their earliest visitors, adopted every method his ingenuity could devise to conciliate them, yet, as they never could thoroughly understand his intentions, they were always on the alert to attack him. hence arose the horror and disgust expressed formerly at the mere mention of the name of a new zealander. i have often tried, in vain, to account for there being such a decided dissimilarity between the natives of new holland and new zealand. so trifling is the difference in their situation on the globe, and so similar their climates both having remained so long unknown to the great continents, and so devoid of intercourse with the rest of the world that one would be led to imagine a great resemblance must be the result. but the natives of the former seem of the lowest grade the last link in the great chain of existence which unites man with the monkey. their limbs are long, thin, and flat, with large bony knees and elbows, a projecting forehead, and pot belly. the mind, too, seems adapted to this mean configuration; they have neither energy, enterprise, nor industry; and their curiosity can scarcely be excited. a few exceptions may be met with; but these are their general characteristics. while the natives of the latter island are cast in beautys perfect mould; the children are so fine and powerfully made, that each might serve as a model for a statue of the infant hercules; there were only four of us, i was rather glad to learn that they also had been born blind. my father used to go and see them, and report their progress to my mother on his return. they can see to day. they have curled themselves up. every one of them. six beautiful little balls; as round as crab apples and as safe as burrs i tried to curl myself up, but i could only get my coat a little way over my nose. i cried with vexation. but one should not lose heart too easily. with patience and perseverance most things can be brought about, and i could soon both see and curl myself into a ball. it was about this time that my father hurried home one day, tossing the leaves at least three inches over his head as he bustled along. what in the hedge do you think has happened to the six said he. oh, dont tell me cried my mother; i am so nervous. which she was, and rather foolish as well, which used to irritate my father, who was hasty tempered, as i am myself. theyve been taken by gipsies and flitted, said he. what do you mean by flitted inquired my mother. a string is tied round a hind leg of each, and they are tethered in the grass behind the tent, just as the donkey is tethered. so they will remain till they grow fat, and then they will be cooked. will the donkey be cooked when he is fat asked my mother. i smell valerian, said my father; on which she put out her nose, and he ran at it with his prickles. he always did this when he was annoyed with any member of his family; and though we knew what was coming, we are all so fond of valerian, we could never resist the temptation to sniff, just on the chance of there being some about. i had long wanted to see my cousins, and i now begged my father to let me prefixed a discourse declaring not only the lawfullnes, but also the necessity of the heavenly ordinance of singing psalmes in the churches of god. coll. iii. let the word of god dwell plenteously in you in all wisdom, teaching, and exhorting one another in psalmes, himnes, and spirituall songs, singing to the lord with grace in your hearts. james v. if any be afflicted, let him pray; and if any be merry let him sing psalmes. imprinted the words for the use, edification, and comfort of the saints in publick and private especially in new england, though given in thomass history of printing, lowndess bibliographers manual, hoods history of music in new england, and many reliable books of reference, as part of the correct title, were in fact not printed upon the titlepage of this first edition, but appeared on subsequent ones. mr. thomas, at the time he wrote his history, knew of but one copy of the first edition; an entire copy except the title page is now in the possession of rev. mr. bentley of salem. the titlepage being missing, he probably fell into the error of copying the title of a later edition, and other cataloguers and manualists have blindly followed him. there were in thirty ministers in new england, all men of intelligence and education; and to three of them, richard mather, thomas welde, and john eliot