**has had recourſe to the more expreſſive and energetic language of poetry: but**

Scarce the Muſe herſelſ

Dares ſtretch her wing o’er this enormous maſs

Of ruſhing waters; to whoſe dread expanſe,

Continuous depth, and wond'rous length of courſe,

Our floods are rills.

"This ſtupendous object is the Burrampooter, a word which in Shanſcrit ſigniſies *the ſon of Brahma;* for no meaner origin could be aſſigned to ſo wonderful a progeny. This ſupreme monarch of Indian rivers derives its ſource from the oppoſite ſide of the ſame mountain from which the Ganges ſprings, and taking a bold ſweep towards the eaſt, in a line directly oppoſite to the courſe of that river, waſhes the vaſt country of Tibet, where, by way of diſtinction, it is denominated *Sanpoo,* or *the river.* Winding with a rapid current through Tibet, and, for many a league, amidſt dreary deſerts and regions remote from the habitations of men, it waters the borders of the territory of Laſſa, the reſidence of the grand Lama; and then deviating with a cometary irregularity, from an eaſt to a ſouth-eaſt courſe, the *mighty wanderer* approaches within 2OO miles of the weitem frontiers of the vaſt empire of China. From this point its more direct path to the ocean lay through the gulph of Siam; but with a deſultory courſe pecu­liar to itſelf, it ſuddenly turns to the weſt through Affam, and enters Bengal on the north-eaſt quarter. “Circling round the weſtern point of the Garrow moun­tains, the Burrampooter now takes a ſouthern direction; and for 6o miles before it meets the Ganges, its ſiſter in point of origin, but not its rival in point of magni­tude, glides majeſtically along in a ſtream which is re­gularly from four to five miles wide, and but for its freſhneſs, Mr Rennel ſays, might paſs for an arm of the ſea. About 40 miles from the ocean theſe mighty rivers unite their ſtreams; but that gentleman is of opinion that their junction was formerly higher up, and that the accumulation of two ſuch vaſt bodies of water, ſcooped out the amazing bed of the Megna lake. Their preſent conflux is below Luckipoor; and by that confluence a body of freſh running water is produced, hardly equalled, and not exceeded, either in the old or the new hemiſphere. So ſtupendous is that body of water, that it has formed a gulph of ſuch extent as to contain iſlands that rival our Iſle of Wight in ſize and fertility; and with ſuch reſiſtleſs violence does it ruſh into the ocean, that in the rainy ſeaſon the ſea itſelf, or at leaſt its ſurface, is perfectly freſh for many leagues out. ”

SANDWICH, a town of Kent, one of the cinque ports, and which has the title of an earldom. It con­flits of about 1500 houſes, molt of them old, and built with wood, though there are a few new ones built with brick and flints. It has three long narrow ſtreets paved, and thirty croſs-ſtreets or alleys, with about 6000 inhabitants, but no particular manufactory. The town is walled round, and alſo fortified with ditches and ramparts; but the walls are much decayed, on account of the harbour being ſo choaked up with fand that a ſhip of 100 tons burthen cannot get in. E. Long. **I.** 20. N. Lat. 51. 20.

*Sandwich Iſlands,* a group of iſlands in the South Sea, lying near New Ireland, were among the laſt diſcoveries of captain Cook, who ſo named them in ho­

nour of the Earl of Sandwich, under whoſe adminiſtration theſe diſcoveries were made. They conſiſt of eleven iſlands, extending in latitude from 18. 54. to 22. 15. N. and in longitude from 150. 54. to 160. 24. W. They are called by the natives, Owhykee Mowee, Ranai, *Moretoi,* Tahoorowa, Woahoo, ATOOI, *Neeheeheow, Oreehoua, Morotinne,* and TAHOORA, all in­habited except the two laſt. An account of the moſt. remarkable of which will be found in their alphabetical order, in their proper places in this work. The climate of theſe iſlands differs very little from that of the Weft Indies in the ſame latitude, though perhaps more tem­perate; and there are no traces of thoſe violent winds and hurricanes, which render the ſtormy months in the Weſt Indies ſo dreadful. There is alſo more rain at the Sandwich Iſles, where the mountainous parts being generally enveloped in a cloud, fucceſſive ſhowers fall in the inland parts, with fine weather, and a clear ſky, on the ſea ſhore. Hence it is, that few of thoſe incon­veniences, to which many tropical countries are ſubject, either from heat or moiſture, are experienced here. The winds, in the winter months, are generally from eaſt-ſouth-eaſt to north-eaſt. The vegetable productions are nearly the ſame as thoſe of the other iſlands in thiſ ocean; but the taro root is here of a ſuperior quality. The bread-fruit trees thrive not in ſuch abundance as in the rich plains of Otaheite, but produce double the quan­tity of fruit. The ſugar-canes are of a very unuſual ſize, ſome of them meaſuring eleven inches and a quarter in circumference, and having fourteen feet eatable. There is alſo a root of a brown colour, ſhaped like a yam, and from ſix to ten pounds in weight, the juice of which is very ſweet, of a pleaſant taſte, and is an excellent ſubſtitute for ſugar. The quadrupeds are confined to the three uſual forts, hogs, dogs, and rats. The fowls are alſo of the common fort; and the birds are beauti­ful and numerous, though not various. Goats, pigs, and European ſeeds, were left by captain Cook; but the poſſeſſion of the goats ſoon gave riſe to a conteſt between two diſtricts, in which the breed was entirely deſtroyed. The inhabitants are undoubtedly of the ſame race that poſſeſſes the iſlands ſouth of the equa­tor; and in their perſons, language, cuſtoms, and man­ners, approach nearer to the New Zealanders than to their leſs diſtant neighbours, either of the Society **or** Friendly Iſlands. They are in general about the mid­dle ſize, and well made; they walk very gracefully, run nimbly, and are capable of bearing very great fa­tigue. Many of both ſexes have fine open countenances; and the women in particular have good eyes and teeth, with a ſweetneſs and ſenſibility of look, that render them very engaging, There is one peculiarity, characteriſtic of every part of theſe iſlands, that even in the handſomeſt faces there is a fulneſs of the noſtril, without any flatneſs or ſpreading of the noſe. They ſuffer their beards to grow, and wear their hair after various faſhions. The dreſs of both men and women nearly reſemble thoſe of New Zealand, and both ſexes wear necklaces of ſmall variegated ſhells. Tattowing the body is practiſed by every colony of this nation. The hands and arms of the women are alſo very neatly marked, and they have the ſingular cuſtom of tattowing the tip of the tongue. Like the New Zealanders, they have adopted the method of living together in vil­lages, containing from an hundred to two hundred