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Vocabularies and notes based on material from enslaved African-Brazilians

Extracted on Mar-28-2024 02:40:38

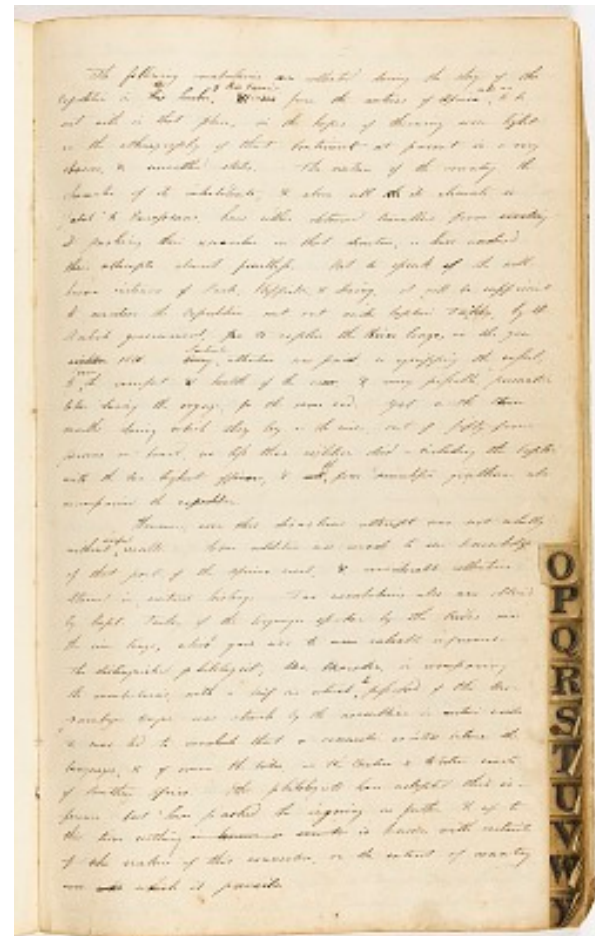
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The following vocabularies were collected during the stay of the expedition in ~~Rio~~ the harbor of Rio Janeiro ~~from the natives of Africa~~ who are to be met with in that place, in the hopes of throwing new light on the ethnography of that continent at present in a very obscure & unsettled states. The nature of the country, the character of its inhabitants, & above all ~~the~~ its climate is fatal to Europeans, have either deterred travellers from ~~visiting it~~ pushing their researches in that direction, or have endured their attempts almost fruitless. Not to speak of the well known instances of Park, Clapperton, & Laing, it will be sufficient to mention the Expedition sent out under Captain Tuckey, by the British government, ~~for~~ to explore the River Congo, in the year ~~eighteen~~ 1816. Every Particular attention was paid, in equipping the vessel, to ensure the comfort & health of the crew, & every possible precaution taken during the voyage, for the same end. Yet in the three months during which they lay in the river, out of fifty-four persons on board, no less than eighteen died - including the Captain with the two highest officers, & ~~all~~ the four scientific gentlemen who accompanied the expedition. However, even this disastrous attempt was not wholly without useful results. Some addition was made to our knowledge of that part of the African coast, & considerable collections obtained in natural history. Two vocabularies also were obtained by Capt. Tuckey of the languages spoken by the tribes near the river Congo, which gave rise to some valuable inferences. The distinguished philologist, Mr. Marsden, in comparing the vocabularies, with a brief one which he possessed of the Mozambique tongue, was struck by the resemblance in certain words & was led to conclude that a connection existed between the languages, & of [course ?] the tribes on the Eastern & Western coasts of Southern Africa. Other philologists have adopted this inference but have pushed the inquiry no further & up to this time nothing ~~is~~ is however so can be ~~is~~ is known with certainty of the nature of this connection, or the extent of country over ~~who~~ which it prevails.



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