

FLAGS
of the
PACIFIC ISLANDS

- (1) General.
- (2) Hawaii.
- (3) Tahiti.
- (4) Society Islands.
- (5) Mangareva.
- (6) Austral Islands.
- (7) Tonga.
- (8) Cook Islands.
- (9) Samoa.
- (10) Niue.
- (11) Fiji.
- (12) Gilbert Islands.
- (13) Ellice Islands.
- (14) Tokelau Islands.
- (15) New Zealand.

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- (1) Drawings of the Flags in use at the present time by various nations. 1889.
Before pl.10 [Flag of Fiji: ill.].

- (2) British Admiralty. Drawings of the flags of all nations. 1930.
Pl.35. Fiji and Western Pacific High Commission Territories.
Pl.36. Flags of Tonga.
Pl.37A. British R.C., New Hebrides.

- (3) Clark, C. The Flags of Britain, their origin and history. 1934.
Pp.115-19. Flags of the Colonies.
P.116. Flag of Western Samoa.

- (4) Flags, badges and arms of His Majesty's dominions beyond the seas and of territories under His Majesty's protection. 1932.
Part I. Flags and badges.
Part II. Arms.
P.21A. British Solomon Islands Protectorate.
P.25. Fiji.

- (5) McCandless, B., and G. Grosvenor. Flags of all the World. 1917.
P.382. Badge of the smaller British islands of the Pacific.

- (6) Wheeler-Holohan, V. Flags of the World past and present, their story and associations. 1939.
P.56. Flag of Western Samoa.
P.66-8. Flags of Fiji, the smaller Pacific Islands, the Tongan Islands, the British Solomon Islands Protectorate and the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

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Flags of the Pacific Islands.

See the Naval Geographical Handbooks, Vol.I - General Survey - p.286, for illustrations of the flags of Samoa, Tonga, Tahiti, Hawaii, Mangareva and Fiji. The following sources are quoted:-

- (1) Samoa. W.B. Churchward. "My Consulate in Samoa", p.62.
- (2) Tonga. Admiralty. "Drawings of the Flags of All Nations". Plate 36. London, 1930.
- (3) Tahiti. C.S. Stewart. "A Visit to the South Seas, in the United States' Ship Vincennes, during the Years 1829 and 1830". Vol.II, p.26. London, 1832.

"Narrative of the Surveying Voyages of H.M. Ships Adventure and Beagle". Vol.II, p.515. London, 1839.
- (4) Hawaii. A Macgeorge. "Flags: Some account of their History and Uses". Plate 6, no.10. London, 1881.
- (5) Mangareva. A. Du Petit-Thouars. "Voyage autour du monde sur le frégate La Venus, pendant les années 1836-1839 Relation". Vol.II, p.254. Paris, 1841.
- (6) Fiji. A watercolour drawing in the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge.

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FLAGS

REFERENCES FROM MITCHELL LIBRARY CATALOGUE

General -

- (1) Forbes, C. "Australasian flags, explaining the history and evolution of the flags of Great Britain, and of the flags and badges of the Australian states, the Commonwealth and New Zealand". 1932.
- (2) King, Cecil. "Flags in Marine Art". Mariners Mirror 22:133-61 (April, 1936).
- (3) National Geographic Magazine. Our flag number (Oct., 1917).
- (4) Philip, G.B. & Son. "British and Colonial flags, also flags of all nations". N.d.

Hawaii -

- (5) Alexander, W.D. "Maker of the Hawaiian Flag". Haw. Hist. Soc. Ann. Repts., 6 (1898), pp.8-11.
- (6) Ballou, H.M. "Reversal of Hawaiian flag". Haw. Hist. Soc. Papers, No.12, (1895), pp.5-11.
- (7) "Hawaiian flag". Hawaiian Almanac (1880), pp.24-6.
- (8) "Hawaiian flag and Coat of Arms". Hawaiian Almanac (1886), pp.37-8.
- (9) Lucas, Mere C. "Captain Alexander Adams and the Hawaiian flag". Hawaiian Almanac (1921), pp.99-101.

Mangareva -

- (10) Pavillon des Iles Gambier, crée en 1832, in "Voyage aux îles Gambier", Cuzent, G.

New Zealand -

- (11) National flag for New Zealand; pattern of the one selected by the New Zealand Chiefs transmitted to Colonial Office. R. Bourke's despatch, no.39, April 29, 1834.
- (12) "The New Zealand Standard". Butler, Rev. J. "Earliest New Zealand", (1927), p.404.
- (13) "The Standard of New Zealand". Yate, Rev. W. "An Account of New Zealand", (1835), p.22.

HAWAIIAN FLAG

- (1) Advertiser March 18 and 19, 1951 Ed.p., c.3.
90 years debate fails to put definite period to the origin of Hawaii's flag. Series. By Charles E. Hogue.
 - (2) Paradise of the Pacific 1950 Aug, p.3.
Hawaii's flag, by Dr $\frac{1}{2}$ Nils P Larsen.
Description of origin.
 - (3) Paradise of the Pacific 1943 Jan, p.28.
History
 - (4) Star-Bulletin 1942 Sept 18 Fic. Fea. c.6
Kamehameha I assisted in designing Haw flag. Article by Donald Billam-Walker.

Sept 25 p.6, c.3
Designer of flag was Capt. Geo Beckley about 1809 or 1810
Letter by Elisha Rosanova.
 - (5) Hawaii Guardsman 1929 July 5, p.5; and Aug, p.2.
By W D Westervelt
 - (6) Advertiser 1925 May 17 and 1926 Oct 9.
 - (7) HHS Papers No.12: by Ballou, Howard M.
 - (8) Paradise of the Pacific 1901 July
History by Rev. W D Westervelt.
 - (9) HHS 1898, pp.8-11. Alexander, W.D.
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FLAGS

HAWAII

- (1) Influence of American and British whalers seen in the design. Scholefield, pp.33-4, quoting J.J. Jarvis, 1843, "History of Hawaii".
- (2) Attitude towards English flag. Scholefield, p.35.
- (3) Ensign (1845) and Royal Standard. There are watercolour drawings of both of these in the MS Journal of Morton Jones in the ML.

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- (1) Ballou, Howard M. "The Reversal of the Hawaiian Flag", Papers of the Hawaiian Historical Society, no.12 (Honolulu, 1905), pp.5-11.
- (2) Thrum - article on the Hawaiian Flag in Thrum's Annual (1880), p.25.
- (3) Norie, J.W. "The Maritime Flags of all Nations". London, 1824.
- (4) Musgrave, "Royal Naval and Merchant Flags of all Nations". London, G. Musgrave & Co., n.d.
- (5) Adams, Alexander, "Part in designing Hawaiian Flag". Hawaiian Annual (1921), pp.99-101. See also the Hawaiian Annual for 1916, p.112.

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HAWAII

Kuykendall, R.S. "The Hawaiian Kingdom", p.55, footnote 77a.

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On the origin of the Hawaiian flag, a much debated subject, see Hawaiian Annual, 1880, pp.24-26; 1886, p.37; 1921, pp.99-101 (article by Mrs Charles Lucas); 6 Hawaiian Historical Society Report, pp.8-11 (article by W.D. Alexander); Hawaiian Historical Society Papers, No.12, pp.5-11 (article by H.M. Ballou); Pacific Commercial Advertiser (Honolulu), April 6 1919 (article by Mrs Maryjane Kulani Montano); Honolulu Advertiser, January 27, 1927 (article by E.N. McClennan).

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Paske-Smith, M. "Early British Consuls in Hawaii", Honolulu,
The Mellen Associates, Ltd., 1936.

P.3. "The flag of Hawaii has the British Jack inset on a ground of eight stripes but originally the number of stripes was nine. There are two claimants to the honour of having designed this flag, Alexander Adams and George Beckley. When Archibald Campbell was in Hawaii in 1812, no Hawaiian flag existed because he mentions that the King was flying the British colours over his house. It is said that the flag was made between 1812 and 1816 by one of the above two captains. It is probable that it was a compromise between the Union Jack used by Kamehameha the First and the American and French colours, all three of these powers having an interest in Hawaii in those days. A sketch of a ship flying the Hawaiian ensign and the Royal Standard appears in the journal of Alexander Adams, so that possibly the honour belongs to him."

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TAHITIAN FLAG

- (1) F.O. 58/14 the first letter (26.8.22) and the second (1.2.23) are concerned with the Tahitian flag of 1822.

See also HRA XIV:742 and note 211.

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- (2) Scholefield, G.H. "The Pacific - Its past and present":-

"The regulations for Huahine, proposed by H.M.S. 'Satellite' in 1829, are especially interesting, inasmuch as they record the presentation of a flag - three horizontal bars, red, white, and red - to the Georgian and Society Islands. This was another measure of recognition by Great Britain."

P.9, quoting Ellis Researches, vol.III.

For the vicissitudes of this flag and the French substitute see pp.19-20.

The extra crown suggested by Toup Nicolas is mentioned on p.20.

Queen's standard lowered by the French, p.26, quoting Pritchard 'Polynesian Reminiscences'.

Residents fly Tahitian flag on coastal shipping, p.29, quoting P.P. 1857-8, lv., report of consul for the Georgian Islands.

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TAHITIAN FLAG

- (1) Correspondence relative to the Society Islands 1822-43, has correspondence re the flying of the British flag, pp.1, 6, 10, etc.
For earlier Tahitian flag (1822) see p.1.
For Tahitian flag (1829), with sketch see p.22.

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- (2) Flag proposed by the chiefs, 1829, after refusal of British Government of use of British flag (see in: Governors' Despatches, N.S.W., no.A1204, p.791). Rather faint and small watercolour drawing of the red, white, red, horizontal stripe flag. ML

- (3) There is a watercolour drawing of the French Protectorate Flag (August, 1845) in the MS Journal of Morton Jones in the ML.

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- (4) The Gentleman's Magazine, vol.XCIV, no.3 (March, 1824), p.268, states that Tahiti had been declared independent of England ~~and~~, the missionaries being in control; "A red flag, with a white star in the upper corner, is now mounted on the point which Bougainville named Point Venus".

This also appears in the Christian Watchman (Boston, Mass.) for 12.6.24.

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- (5) Earliest flag on Tahiti the Union Jack presented by Captain Cox of the Mercury in 1789. For the respect shown to this see Morrison's Journal, pp.114-5, 118.

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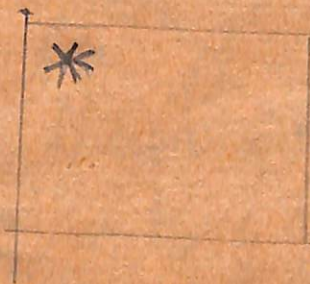
FLAG - 1822.

TAHITI

H. H. H. (Resident of Tahiti) to Messrs of London, 1
Aug. 26, 1822 (F.O. 58/14)

"We take the earliest opportunity of offering you
Ladship, for the information of His Britannick Majesty's
Government; that the Rulers of these Islands, with a
view of facilitating Commerce, have adopted a Flag,
as per Annex, which we trust will be respected by
the Commanders of His Majesty's Ships of War, Gallies
of Commerce, &c.

Sketch in Annex



Star - white with
seven points

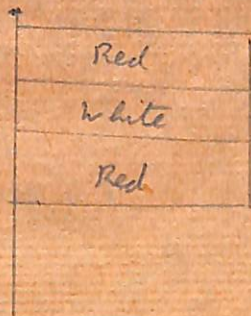
Ground - red

FLAG - 1829

TAHITI

Rev Henry Pitt to Henry Planta, Foreign Office,
March 11, 1829 (FO 58/14)

"The enclosed I beg leave to inform you is a description of what will now be the Tahitian Flag, and in all probability the Flag of the Georgian and Society Islands."



Commander Laro conveyed the news of the flag in his letter to S. W. Coker of the Admiralty dated 11 3 29 (FO 58/14)

"~~The~~ The same letter [from Lanning of 3 3 27] referred to a request they had made to His Majesty for permission to wear the British Flag; which request not being complied with, they now propose to establish the Flag here represented as their national one, hoping that such an arrangement will be approved by His Majesty, and their Friends, the People of England."

Excerpt from a letter from Queen Pomare I to the President of the United States, dated Raiatea, September 26, 1829, and sent on board the USS Vincennes. Quoted in Anon, Missionary voyages among the South Sea Islands, Boston, Clapp & Broaders, 1834, p.199.

'We have a new flag given us by Captain Lawes, of the Satellite, British man-of-war; will you kindly acknowledge it in traversing the seas, and in visiting you, as yours is by us - should that be the case at a distant period.'

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Tahitian Flag

See Hitata, Regent to F.O. 26.8.22.
in ML MSS 23, vol. I.

Letter to
Bryce
Robert

FLAGS

TAHITI

Walpole, Hon. Fred. "Four Years in the Pacific in Her Majesty's Ship
'Collingwood' from 1844 to 1848". London, Richard Bentley, 1850.

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[II:95-6]. "The Tahitian colours are red and white, with Victoria ea
Pomare, and a crown pointed on them: some had an English Union, and the
Tahitian colours; all ~~yet~~ were of native manufacture, and "With these,"
they said, "we will yet conquer, yet welcome back our Queen with
honour".

At first their colours were made with a sort of tail behind; but
finding, when worn, they bore some resemblance to the eagle on the
French soldiers' caps, the hated emblems were burnt."

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For material on the Tahiti (and other) Flags see the article in
Nos.90 & 96 of the Journal des Etudes Oceaniennes.

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From: [Lucett, M.] "Rovings in the Pacific, from 1837 to 1849, with a Glance at California". London 1851.

[I:231. 1842]. "The primitive national colours of Tahiti are red and yellow; but their present flag, introduced to them by Captain Laws, of H.M.S. Satellite, is red, white, and red, in horizontal bars, the white being the centre one. They are passionately fond of the colours red and yellow; and they have a singular way of manufacturing a red dye, described to me by one of the missionaries."

[II: 15-18. 1843]. "It must also be observed that no objection had been made to Pomare's retaining her private flag, but in the flag to be used by commercial vessels the French union had been inserted. The queen had been in the habit of visiting the neighbouring islands in a schooner built by her own people, and there were several schooners of similar size and appearance plying between the islands, and flying the flag as it was when originally presented to them by captain Laws, of H.M.S. Satellite, the same flag being used at all the islands both of the Georgian and Society group, now limited in Tahiti to the queen's private use. About this time, as a vessel was either going out or coming into the harbour, Commodore Nicolas was led to suppose from the flag that the queen was on board, and gave orders for saluting her, and had only time to countermand his instructions on discovering that the vessel belonged to a chief of a neighbouring isle, and did not carry the queen. To avoid mistake for the future, the commodore advised the queen to have some distinguishing mark in her flag that it might be immediately recognised. Delighted at the idea, she requested the commodore to design something for her, as her people were not competent to the task: accordingly the Commodore caused a crown surrounded by a chaplet of cocoa-nut leaves to be wrought in the centre of

her flag. The Triumvirs made some demur to this, and requested permission to insert also something in the flag; but Pomare negatived the proposition by saying, "that she was well satisfied with it as it then was, and as she meant to wear a crown, so would she carry the type of it in her flag". Nothing particular occurred during the next six months; but the commodore then left the island by an order from his admiral, to the great dismay of the Queen and her people, who fully believed that the commodore would stand by them until the affairs of the island were finally arranged; and doubted not but that Pomare would be reinstated in her full independent sovereignty.

[17] I was told that after the Vindictive had taken her departure, the queen sat watching and weeping till the frigate was no longer discernible, filled with a melancholy presage of what her fate was likely to be, now that her protector was gone. Her forebodings of ill were only too soon to be realised, for not long after the absence of the "commodore", five French vessels made their appearance in the harbour, bringing with them labourers, artificers, troops, guns, ammunition, a governor and his staff, and the officers necessary for a civil establishment, all of which were originally destined for the Marquesa Islands, which the French had taken possession of some time previously. Pomare was peremptorily ordered to take down her private flag and to substitute some other, as it was insinuated that her selection of the present one had proceeded from a hostile feeling towards France, which consequently could not suffer it to remain in her possession. She might make choice of any other she pleased, or she might retain the old Tahitian flag; but the one with the additions suggested by commodore Nicolas, as they were made for the purpose of insulting France, she should not be allowed to fly. Pomare resolutely refused to take down her flag, or to substitute any other. I heard that

[18] the governor went so far as to implore her to yield to circumstances, and pointed out the consequences of her obstinately persisting in a refusal. She repeated what she had before said, "that she was well satisfied with the flag, and would have no other;" and requested the governor, "if he had any further communications to make, to make them in writing, and she would respond in like manner." But he did not enter into much negotiation about the matter; an hour was appointed for her to take down the obnoxious flag; and when this time arrived, as it was not removed, an armed force was landed, who hauled it down, and hoisting the tricolor, the island was declared to be taken possession of in the name of Louis Philippe of France. Pomare's house and domain were seized upon for the use of the governor and his lady; and the out-offices and other buildings were taken possession of as barracks, &c., for the soldiers, artificers, and others engaged in this invasion.

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[II:138-9. 1844]. "To give the officers of the Collingwood an opportunity of seeing something of native manners and ~~custom~~ habits, I induced a native to prepare a luhau, or native ^{hi-nu} ~~picnic~~, in a shaded glen in the valley of Faatanua; whither thirty or forty of us proceeded, the chief of the district coming out to meet us. Many of the natives had gathered there,, and they would not lose this opportunity of showing their regard for the British. The chief conducted us to his house, which was entirely lined with English ensigns, and on a flagstaff outside, the British ensign was flying above the flag bestowed upon them by Captain Laws, of the Satellite. In the firm persuasion that the Collingwood had come to restore the original order of things, the natives had prepared for themselves ponchos, which they exhibited before us, one half representing the English ensign, and the other the Tahitian. They were manufactured of appropriate coloured calicoes, and some of them had designs painted on them, executed in a manner reflecting no little

credit on their skill as artists. All the devices bore testimony of their attachment towards us, the words "Victoria e Pomare" being conspicuous on most, in a sort of scroll, beneath an attempt at the British arms blended with designs typical of Tahiti; and these ponchos were to be the jubilee dresses on the restoration."

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Almsted, F. a "Incidents of a whaling voyage . . ." London,
John Neale, 1844. Tahitian flag in possession, H. 82-3.

FLAGS

TAHITI

Material for an article on the above subject is contained in :-

Pritchard, W.T., "Polynesian Reminiscences or, Life in the South Pacific Islands", London, 1866. P.32-39.

From this it appears that there were 3 flags in Tahiti :-

- (1) The old Tahitian flag (origin not stated), - equal horizontal stripes of red, white and red.
- (2) The Protectorate flag introduced in 1843 - as above but with the French flag in the "upper canton". This is not properly a national flag as Tahiti was no longer independent but should be mentioned.
- (3) The Queen's personal standard designed by Commodore Toup Nicolas in 1843 - as above but with a crown in the white portion.

The Tahitian flag was finally struck, and the French tricolour substituted, on the 7th November, 1843.

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Historical Records of Australia. Series I, Governor's Despatches to and from England. Vol. XIV. March, 1828 - May, 1829. Sydney, N.S.W., Library Committee of the Commonwealth Parliament, 1922. P.742 and Note 211.

Reproduces a letter from Commander Laws to Secretary Crocker written on board H.M. Sloop "Satellite" at Papeete on the 11th March, 1829, in which he states, inter alia, :-

"And I have further to inform you that the Chiefs of Otaheite requested me to attend a meeting of all the principal people of the Island, when they expressed their gratitude for the assurance, they had received, in a letter from the late Mr. Canning, dated 3rd March, 1827, of the continuance of the favourable opinion and protection of the British Nation; the same letter referred to a request they had made to His

Majesty for permission to wear the British flag; which request not being complied with, they now propose to establish the flag here represented as their National one, hoping that such an arrangement will be approved by His Majesty and their Friends the People of England.

Note 211 states that "the flag here represented" was, in the original, a drawing divided into equal horizontal parts, coloured red, white and red respectively.

THE TAHITIAN FLAG

- (1) "The regulations for Hinchine, proposed by H.M.S. Satellite in 1829, are especially interesting, inasmuch as they record the presentation of a flag - three horizontal bars, red, white, and red - to the Georgian and Society Islands. This was another measure of recognition by Great Britain." - Ellis Perceval, vol. III, quoted in Schlegel, p. 9.
- (2) In 1842 "The acting British consul (Mr Charles B. Wilson) reported to the Foreign Office that the Tahitian flag had been changed, that it was now the original flag with the French colours in the upper part next to the staff, and that it had been saluted on the La Reine Blanche [Commodore Dupetit Thouars] on 26th September." - Schlegel, p. 19.
- (3) "In January 1843 when H.M.S. Tallot (Captain Sir Thomas Thompson) arrived, the queen rowed across to the vessel in the state barge flying the old Tahitian flag (red, white and red bars lengthwise). The Tallot hoisted the same flag and fired a royal salute. The French government was furious, and passed a resolution protesting against the British Captain's 'want of regard for the treaty made with a foreign nation' and against his entering into relations with a queen who had ceded to the French 'all her rights relative to the exterior relations of her estates'." - Schlegel, pp. 19-20.
- (4) "The Tahitian flag flew once more over the royal residence and was saluted with full honours, and the queen, on the suggestion of Commodore Torp Neelaa, ordered a crown to be put on the white part of her flag as a symbol of royalty. The French government immediately demanded its removal as insulting to France, but the Vindictive was protecting the

THE TAHITIEN FLAG, cont'd

queen put the true flag, and the demand failed." - Scholfield, p. 20.

(5) "on 7th March [1843], accordingly, he [Desfetit Tlonono] ordered the queen's personal standard to be struck under threat of arrest
face ..."

"At midday a strong force was landed from the bayette, a square was formed about the queen's flagstaff, the flag was lowered, and Desfetit Tlonono took formal possession. 'And covered with smoke,' says Pritchard, 'the gallant officer who stepped forward and put his foot on the crown in Pomare's flag, exclaimed in broken English: "Here goes the crown of England and now in the dirt!" and three cheers were raised the exclamation'." - Scholfield, p. 26.

(6) "In 1856 it was pointed out by the consul that ocean-going ships could only call at the ports of Papeete, Tamoa, and Papehaua, while the coastal trade was reserved exclusively for vessels carrying the French or the protectorate flag. In practice the coastal trade was chiefly in the hands of British residents at Tahiti who registered their vessels there and flew the Tahitian flag." - Scholfield, p. 29.

Davidson, J. W. "European penetration of the South Pacific 1779-1842". 1942 no

p. 302. "Meanwhile, the external sovereignty of the Society Islands states had begun to gain substance. In 1829 they adopted a national flag - an example which was later followed in many other parts of Polynesia." 7

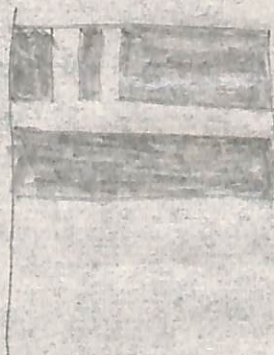
Footnote (7) "The Tahitian flag, which consisted of red, white and red horizontal stripes, was flown in all the Society Islands states despite their independence of one another (see Stewart, "A Visit to the South Seas", II, 26; Fitzroy, "Proceedings of the Second Expedition...", 514). . . . The Society Islands and New Zealand colours were, of course, well known in many parts of the Pacific."

Attached sketch (to Seymour's dispatch)

Old Tahitian Flag



Protectorate flag of
Tahiti



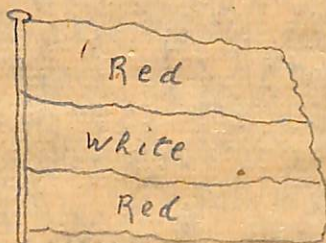
NB - colours not described - I suspect
the original must be in colours, but film
would bring them out - Would
they be Red & white, do you think?

R G

FLAGS

GEORGIAN OR SOCIETY ISLANDS

Flag of the Georgian or Society Islands figured in the copy of the "Port Regulations given by Captain Laws of His Britannic Majesty's Ship of War Satellite to the King and ~~the~~ Chiefs of Raiatea in March 1829 founded on an act for the more effective punishment of Murders and Manslaughters committed in places not within His Majesty's Dominions, Anno 57 Geo. 1817, Chap. 53", enclosed with the "Letters from Comdr. Wm. B. Finch, Condg. the Vincennes on voyage to Tahiti, Honolulu, Canton, and Manila, July 1829 - April 1830", Naval Records, U.S. National Archives.



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F.O. 58/60

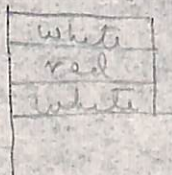
FLAGS

BORABORA HUAHINE RAIATEA

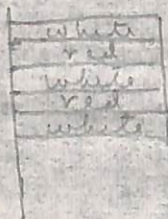
Tapoa (King of Borabora) & Tamarua (King of Raiatea) to Capt. Martin (HMS Krampus)
20-6-47 (in Seymour to word, 24-8-47)

The flags are as follows =

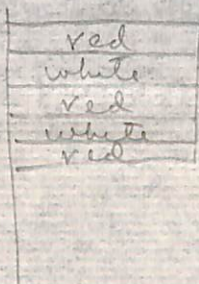
Huahine



Raiatea



Borabora

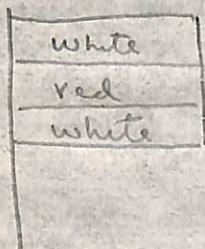


F.O.58/57

Capt. H.J. Worth (HMS Calypso) to George Miller, Acting Consul, dated Papeete, 27 Oct. 1847

"I have the honour to acquaint you that the Flag proposed by Tapoa and Tamatoa to the Queen of Huahine, for her adoption as the National Flag of that Island, has been accepted by her, and was formally hoisted on the 14th Instant.

"The Flag in question consist of three horizontal stripes, White above and below, and Red in the centre, as per margin."



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"The regulations for Huahine, proposed by H.M.S. 'Satellite' in 1829, are especially interesting, inasmuch as they record the presentation of a flag - three horizontal bars, red, white, and red - to the Georgian and Society Islands. This was another measure of recognition by Great Britain". Scholefield, p.9, quoting Ellis Researches, vol.III.

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FLAGS

RAIATEA

- (1) Hoisting of Raiatea flag by H.M.S. 'Turquoise' 1880. Scholefield,
p.30.

MANGAREVA FLAG

For the beginnings of the Mangareva Flag see:-

- (1) Dupetit-Thouars. "Voyage autour du Monde sur la Venus"
Tome II, pages 251-5.
- (2) Jore, L. "Quarante ans de navigation dans le Pacifique.
Le capitaine au long cours bordelais Arnaud Mauruc 1800-1872".
Bulletin de la Societed'Etudes Oceaniennes, vol.X, no.125,
(December, 1958), pp.866-9.

Danielson, J. W. "European Penetration of the South Pacific, 1779-1842". 1942. no

Footnote (7) to p. 302. "A flag was adopted at Mangareva about 1837 (under the influence of the Roman Catholic bishop residing there). It consisted of three horizontal bands, white, black and white, and bore five red stars, one set in each corner of the flag and one in the middle (Du Petit-Thouars, 'Voyage autour du monde...', II, 254). These colors were flown by at least one Pacific trading vessel - that of Captain Maurice (for whom see above, 153)".

PA. 152-3

Capt. A. Maurice became well-known in the Society Islands and the Tuamotus in the 1830s as master of vessels sent out by Morelambert and his partners from Chile to engage in the trading industry. He was a Frenchman domiciled in Chile and began trading on his own account. Du Petit-Thouars, IV, 33-46, 251-254; Lucas, 100-107. See Fore, L. article on Armand Maurice (1800-1872) in the Bulletin de la Société des Etudes Océaniques, X: 863-76.

But Newbury says the flag was red, white and red horizontal stripes with five stars - the Royal Mangarevan flag, symbol of the island's independence. Newbury, Colin, in the Tournoi de la Société des Océanistes vol. 15 (1959), p. 104. He also speaks of Maurice.

(1) See Part XV, p. 17; and Part XVI, pp. 110 ff; of the F.O.
Confidential Print series.

Got für König -
Der Pitt-Tenare Voyage
carton du monde .. II: 254
Le Compteur de l'Égypte

FLAGS

TONGA

The Sailor's Magazine and Naval Journal (U.S.A.), vol.XIII, no.90 (Nov., 1840).

.....

"During my stay [at Vavau] King George acquainted me that he had chosen a flag for his dominions; white bordered with red, bearing a St. Andrew's cross of the same colour."

.....

Nautical Magazine 37:659. Tongan flag at Fiji hauled
down.

Lawry, Walter. "A Second Missionary ~~Cruise~~ Visit to the Friendly and Feejee Islands, in the year MDCCCL." London, John Mason, MDCCCLI.

.....

P.95. "We have been trying our hand at designing and forming a national flag for the King, which he may hoist on all proper occasions, and thus assert his national character. It has occurred to us, that a fit emblem

of the past history of Tonga might be a club and a bow and arrow, showing the warlike character of its people. For its present Christian state,

P.96. we select the emblem of a dove with an olive branch: and for the natural state of Tonga, and the bounty of Divine Providence, we fix upon

the cocoa-nut tree, as affording so many and various articles, for meat, and drink, and building, and furniture. But devising ~~state~~ state-flags

has formed no part of our early experience; nor should we meddle with it

now, only that the King has learned from the Captain of the "Meander" that he ought to hoist his flag, and then ships of war would salute the same.

The King has come to us and said, "I will fix the flagstaff in the ground, and you will please to prepare the flag." "

The above extract from Lawry's diary of his cruise is dated Nukualofa, July 13, 1850.

.....

- (1) "Flags, Badges and Arms of the British Dominions beyond the Seas"
Part I: Flags and Badges, London, H.M. Stationery Office, 1910.

Pl. 15 gives excellent reproductions in colour of the :-

- (1) Royal Standard of Tonga - an elaborate design.
- (2) Ensign of Tonga - as given by Gordon, q.v.
- (3) Customs Flag of Tonga.
- (4) Ensign of Rarotonga - as given by Gordon.

Plate may be purchased separately for 3d or Part I for 3/-.

- (2) Gordon, W.J. "Flags of the World, Past and Present: Their Story and Associations". London, Frederick Warne & Co., 1915.

P.110. "Our old acquaintances, the Friendly Islands, far out in the South Pacific, now constituting the protectorate of Tonga, are well distinguished by the red ensign with the dumpy St. George's Cross in the upper canton; and the Cook Islands under the protection of New Zealand with the headquarters at Rarotonga have a better flag in the red, white, and red horizontal with three five-pointed stars in the middle stripe".

pl. XIV on p. 103 gives coloured reproductions of the above two flags, thus:



TONGA

Shaded portion is Red, unshaded White.



RAROTONGA

Rarotonga stars are Blue.

N.Z. Parliamentary Paper A - 6, 1893, p.4, in a message from the Arikis to the Parliament of the Federation submits the following for consideration:

"To appoint a federal flag, to be used by all native vessels going to other countries. On shore we hoist the Union-jack given to us by the Queen, when the Protectorate of Great Britain was proclaimed, and under which we hope to live for ever."

and on p.8 is quoted the following resolution of the Federal Parliament:-

"RESOLUTION No.1. - (1st July, 1892). RESOLVED, That the Union-jack be quartered upon the flag of the Federation, if we are allowed to do so; and the Chief of the Government is authorised hereby to take any steps necessary for this end."

On pp.14-15 there is further correspondence on the flag question, including a description of the flag:-

"Description of Flag for Marine Use - Three longitudinal stripes - red, white and red - of equal width, with the Union in the upper corner of the red stripe if it be allowed."

The Admiralty approved the use of the Union Jack in the flag, provided it was defaced by a shield bearing some device.

See Enc. No. 2 on p.42 for the reference of this point to Parliament.

Parliament Paper A - 3, 1894, p.2, states the final decision of Parliament as set out in the Schedule to the Federal Flag Act, No.8 of 1892:-

"The flag to be in proportions of 3 to 2 in length and breadth, with three equal horizontal stripes - red, white, and red alternately. The Union Jack to be quartered in the hoist, and to occupy one-fourth the flag. In the centre of the Union Jack a white oval shield bearing a cocoanut palm in black. The upper and lower edges of the Union Jack respectively."

On p.14 of P.P. A - 6, 1893, it is stated that:-

"Each island has its own flag, and it was only after much consideration that the flag of Rarotonga was adopted, the three stars representing the three districts of that island being struck out by consent,"

- - - - -

FLAG OF THE COOK ISLANDS

No. 1.93

FEDERAL FLAG ACT.

Whereas the Federal Flag Act (No.8 of 1892.) was reserved by the British Resident and has not become law. It is hereby enacted by the British Resident and the Parliament of the Cook Islands.

I. That the Flag for the Federation of the Cook Islands shall be ~~described~~ as described in the Schedule hereto.

Dated at Avarua the 31st day of July 1893.

Approved. To come into operation forthwith

Frederick J. Moss, British Resident.

3rd August 1893.

SCHEDULE

The flag to be in proportions of 3 to 2 in length and breadth with three equal horizontal stripes red white and red alternately.

The Union-jack to be quartered in the hoist and to occupy one fourth the flag. In the centre of the Union-jack a white oval shield bearing a cocoa palm in black. The upper and lower edges of the Union-jack respectively.

.....

FLAGS

COOK ISLANDS

COPY

Stahnsdorf, July 8th, 1948.

Karl Fachinger
Stahnsdorf, Kr. Teltow
Falkenstr. 22
Germany.

H. Exc.
the Governor of the Cook Islands,

Rarotonga
Cook Islands.

Dear Sir:

For my heraldic and historic researches about the national and ~~maritim~~ flags of the different nations in former centuries, I need some informations on the flags, which have been used in former times on the different islands of the Cook Islands- Group. I have compiled from ~~different~~ sources some anotations on this subject, and on the enclosed page you may find sketches of the flags, which I have found in contemporanean flags books and sheets. Surely have, however, existed still further flags of other islands or event of native rulers, which do not appear in the current flag compilations of that time. If you should have any further informations or pictures of such flags, I would be very much obliged to you, if you could give me descriptions or, if possible, sketches with indications of the full colours, of such flags.

Please accept in advance my sincerest thanks for your kind assistance to my historic studies and excuse the trouble I cause you with my wishes.

Your obedient servant

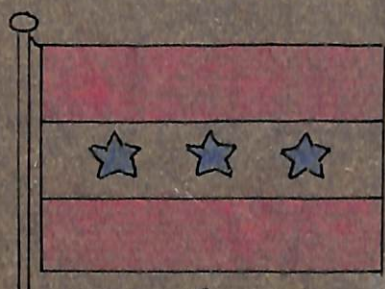
(Sgd.) Karl Fachinger

Karl Fachinger
(1) Stahnsdorf, Kr. Teltow

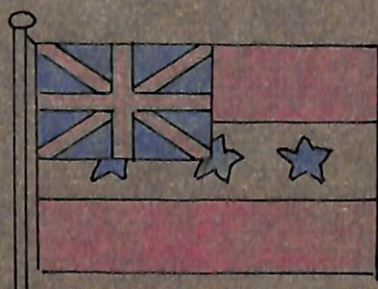
Falkenstr. 22

Germany.

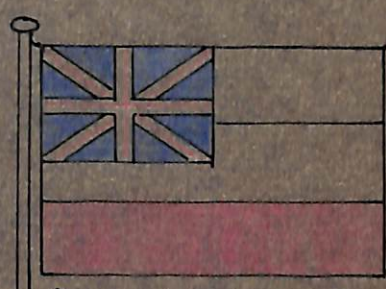
FLAGS OF THE COOK ISLANDS.



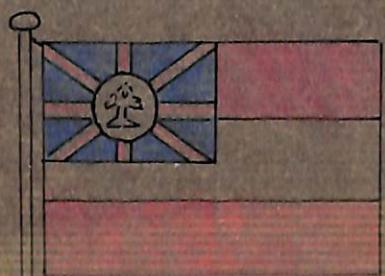
Flag of Rarotonga
prior to 1888



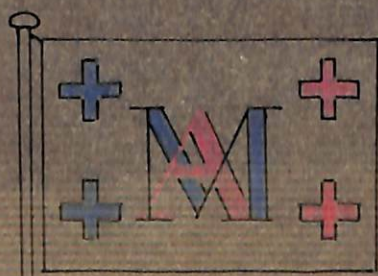
Flag of Rarotonga
after 1888



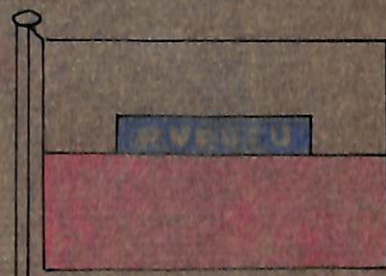
Federal Flag of Cook
Islands prior to 1889



Federal Flag of Cook
Islands after 1889



Flag of Tongatabu
about 1858



Flag of Rorutu Island
of the Cook Group
about 1858

PENRHYN FLAG

Special J.C. Ross to Sec., WPHC, on 24.10.93: The question of a commercial flag for the people of Omoka, Penrhyn was much discussed while I was at Rarotonga, the Cook Island Government and the Admiral of the Australian station being interested in it. The people of Omoka, Penrhyn bought a schooner from a Captain Pilz an American trader resident at Rarotonga, and a provisional certificate of registry was granted to the vessel last year by the local collector of customs, whereupon the flag of the Federation was hoisted on it.

The vessel proceeded to Tahiti and the natives on board expressed great dissatisfaction to the British Consul that they were not allowed to fly the Union Jack or their own flag. The requirements of the French authorities are very strict that all vessels shall carry flags. The British Consul referred the grievance of the Penrhyn Islanders to the Foreign Office and instructions were given to him (a copy of which was sent to Commander Bain by the Admiral) that the Union Jack might not be flown, but that the red ensign might be used if the provisions of the Merchant Act were followed by the owners of the vessel. The registration of the schooner under the Merchant Shipping Act being impracticable for the reasons that the vessel was unseaworthy, and that her Master was unqualified, Lieut. Comm. Bain informed the head of the Omoka Govt. that he might fly the Penrhyn Island flag.

.....

FLAGS

TUTUILA

Gilson, R.P. "The politics of a multi-cultural community. Samoa, 1830-1900". MS, p.584.

.....

"When the Narragansett left, Mauga was the proud custodian of the new flag of 'Tutuila', a hastily-designed parody of the Stars and Stripes. U.S.C.P., 44^{C.}, 1S., House Ex. Doc. 161, 45-46; sketch of flag forms enclosure in ML copy of Rieman, Cruise of the 'Narragansett', 24-25 [?]; Ellison, 40-43 [?].

.....

FLAGS

SAMOA

U.S.S. "Naragansett" (4th rate),

Pango Pango, Tutuila,

Mar. 12th, 1872.

Hon. George M. Robeson,
Secretary of the Navy,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I enclose herewith the following additional papers relating to our work in this vicinity:

.....

C. A drawing of the flag raised by Maungo on the 2nd of March and which I saluted with 15 guns, from our howitzer on shore, landed by us with the Battalion for drill.

.....

(Signed) Richard W. Meade,
Commander U.S.N.

C.

The Flag of Tutuila,
Samoa Islands.

The nine stripes represent the 9 islands of Samoa, viz: Tau, Olosenga, Ofo, Aunuu, Tutuila, Upolu, Manona, Apolima, and Saraii.

Tutuila is the Central Island of the group, Pango-Pango harbour is the key to Samoa.

The four white stripes and white stars represent the four large islands, viz: Saraii, Upolu, Tutuila, and Tau.

The five blue stripes represent the small islands. The moon (an ancient emblem in Samoa) is shown ~~by the~~ in the 1st and last quarters - representing the letter S. of Samoa.

(Signed) Richd. W. Meade,
Commander U.S.N.

[No drawing of the flag is attached in the photocopy].

Samoa Flag.

Excerpt from despatch No.179 of the 26th June, 1875 from S.G. Goodenough, Captain and Commodore, Commanding Australian Station, to the Admiralty (written from Her Majesty's Ship 'Pearl', Levuka, Fiji).

... ..

2. A new Samoa Flag, consisting of four red and three white stripes, carrying a blue upper canton with one white star, was hoisted on April 24th and saluted with 21 guns by the United States Ship 'Tuscarora'. On May 22nd, a high Chief, named Malietoa Laupipu, was proclaimed King of Samoa, and was saluted with 21 guns by the 'Tuscarora'.

... ..

From Commander J. (?) Miller, U.S.S. 'Tuscarora',
(6th May, 1876) to Sec of the Navy.

.....

"In November 1873, the natives formed their first Constitution which was approved by all the foreign Consuls.

Under this Constitution there was no King the supreme power being vested for one year in a body of seven Taimua (those who go before to show the way) and a native flag was adopted which was saluted afterwards by Commodore Goodenough of H.B.M. Ship 'Pearl'.

In the latter part of 1874 and on the expiration of the term of office of the Taimua, the Constitution was amended with the consent of the foreign consuls and missionaries as follows; two Kings were appointed, Malietoa and Pule Pule, and the number of the Taimua increased from seven to fourteen.

.....

Under the new Constitution Malietoa was elected King to serve for four years, the present flag was adopted and saluted by this vessel.

.....

.....

.

From : R.P. Gilson. MS thesis on Samoa.

- - - - -

[1845] ^u Roidaire took up residence at Mulim'u, where he was given the use of a Samoan house and a guarantee of personal safety and religious freedom. Yet, for a missionary, he was in the rather unusual position of having no adherents and of being held suspect on the grounds of his nationality. It was at this stage that Williams, aided by Pritchard, tried to erect new barriers to French intervention, which according to rumour was due any day. [It was rumoured, from the time the ^tpriests landed in Samoa, that they were to be followed up by a French warship carrying a large contingent of marines. It was claimed that such a ship had been sighted off the coast, but the threat never materialized. F.O. 58/38, Pritchard to Aberdeen, 11 Oct. 1845; L.M.S., S.S.L./18, Mills, 11 Oct. 1845, Nisbet, 27 Nov. 1845.] In the state of emergency that was assumed to exist, the consuls focussed their attention upon Upolu, the island which France might be expected to seize first, owing to its being the richest and, in other respects too, the most important. To a gathering of ~~the~~ Upolu's "principal chiefs" - how many or how representative is not known - they proposed that the British government be petitioned for a definite and formal guarantee of protection and, further, that some sort of central government or general law code be proclaimed and a "national flag" adopted, such as to give the island at least the outward appearance of ~~unity~~ unity and order. [F.O. 58/45, Pritchard to Aberdeen, 28 May 1846.] The idea behind these measures was, presumably, that if France did move in, so soon after the Tahiti crisis, there should be the maximum of international furore. Th the Samoans, however, the issue was not so simple and straightforward. They were particularly concerned

about the flag, first because to have and retain one in common would require a measure of unity which did not then exist even on a Mālo basis, and secondly because the custody of such a symbol would confer, or constitute a claim to, a position of ceremonial leadership. There had been, for some years, a flag used by the European masters of unregistered vessels and referred to as the "Upolian colours", [Adm. 1/5548, Home to Cochrane, 15 Oct. 1844.] and it was proposed that it might suit the present purpose. But as that flag was either the ~~the~~ exclusive property of foreigners or a mere party banner, perhaps of the deceased ~~Vai'itini~~ Vai'inupo, the suggestion solved nothing. It led, rather, to a new difficulty, in that elements of both the American and British flags were to be found in the so-called "Upolian colours". [Loc.cit.; F.O. 58/45, Pritchard to Aberdeen, 28 May 1846.] The resemblance, which was probably not fortuitous, gave Roudaire a valuable talking-point, especially among people who already had strong fa'a-Samoa aversions to the above proceedings. The flag in question was, he said, of obvious foreign design, and to adopt it formally and raise it over Upolu would automatically bring the island under American and British rule, as no doubt intended by the consuls. He added that France, out of concern for Samoa's independence, was as antipathetic to that course of events as were the Samoans themselves. [Monfat, Les Samoa, 270-71.]

Roudaire's interpretation of the protectorate scheme was, of course, far-fetched, but hardly more so than many of the things being said against France. In this case, then, it was what the Samoans believed or feared that mattered most, and they were sufficiently apprehensive of foreign domination and ignorant of the ways of the Powers to give serious thought to what Roudaire said. If Pritchard, a man of notorious indiscretion, said openly or even hinted at what

he had been writing to the Foreign Office, he too may have helped defeat the proposals put to the meeting of Upolu chiefs. Only if a foreign Power took possession of Samoa, he had claimed, would conditions there change for the better. As for effecting such a take-over, he had observed that the Samoans were too divided among themselves to make any resistance. [F.O. 58/38, Pritchard to Aberdeen, 31 Dec. 1845]. The clear implications, made explicit in later despatches, was that Britain should immediately annex the islands outright, with or without petitions to that effect. Judged in the light of such sentiments as these, Roudaire's statement might have seemed well-founded indeed. At any rate, the meeting of chiefs broke up without adopting a flag or code or producing any petition. [Monfat. loc.cit.; F.O. 58/45, Pritchard to Aberdeen, 28 May 1846.] If agreement was reached on any point, it was that the Samoans wanted to secure the benefits of contact with Europeans while remaining free of all foreign governments, British and American included.

FLAGS OF SAMOA

- (1) Riemar, George B. "Papalangee, or Uncle Sam in Samoa". Oakland, Butler and Stilwell, 1874.

Has a sketch or water colour (as an insertion in the book) of the Manua flag given by Commander Meade.

- (2) In addition to the Manua flag there was, according to Gilson, the Stienberger flag and a Malietao flag. It appears, unless I misunderstood Gilson, that the latter is the one mentioned by Churchward.

① ~~It would be fine to have a red and white stripe~~

Saxon flag of 22.4. 1875 as presented to the Gen of
Stenlize: 'a line of red and white stripes - a
stripe for each of the seven districts - and a single white star
in a field of blue, the star representing the capital island
of Uholn'

~~Under Frederick's flag on Stenlize, perhaps from
Galeson, p. 2. 318.~~ The Century (July 1889), vol. XXXVIII.

(July 1889), p. 34.



FLAGS

NIUE

Thomas, Basil, in "Savage Island": An Account of a Sojourn in Niue and Tonga", London, John Murray, 1902, states on p.45 that Niue had no flag of its own prior to the establishment of the British Protectorate, in 1900, when the Union Flag was hoisted.

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FIJIAN FLAG

See: Wall, Colman, "Cakobau's Flag" in Transactions of the
Fijian Society, 1908 to 1910, pp.62-4.

.....

Brewster, A.B. "King of the cannibal isles", pp.196-199.
History of flag; illustrations of Arms, Royal Standard and Ensign
of King Cakobau, 1871-1874.

FLAGS

FIJI

Wall, Colman. "Cakobau's Flag". Trans. of the Fijian Society for 1910.
[no pagination].

.....

Debates what was Cakobau's flag at the time of cession. "A blue flag with a white shield in the centre on which was depicted a dove and olive branch in natural colours the wings being closed and the shield was surmounted by a crown with orb and cross and motto 'Fear God, Honour the King in Fijian' (sic.)". Main idea probably taken from old missionary flag which was blue, with a dove and olive branch in white in the centre. "As far as I can make out the flag of the Lau Confederacy was a red and white with a red cross on a white ground in the corner".

The only other flag known to the author was "a white flag intersected by a red cross carried for a time by Mr Burness, Capt. Place, and other volunteers in the Colo war."

.....

*There is another mention of the Fiji flag in either vol 2 or 3 of
the Trans. & Proc. of the Fiji Soc. of Sci. & Ind.*

FLAGS

GILBERT ISLANDS.

- (1) For Tem Binoka's flag after the capture of Nonouti see Moore's report (H.M.S. "Dart"), pp.14 & 24.
- (2) For flag of the Southern Gilbert Islands Federation see Ms 31 in File A/1, p.5, where Mr. Clarke reports that "On January 20th, touched at Peru Island. I found there a trader named Fraico Vallerio, a Tyrolese, who informed he had been appointed by Captain Freeman, Commercial Agent of the Hawaiian Government for the islands of Peru, Araria, Tamana, Nukunoa, Onotua, Taupatuea and Nonouti. He had prepared a federation of the above named islands and was flying their (proposed) flag of six alternate red and white horizontal stripes with a star in the centre."

- - - - -

(3) Abemama

1890

Designed by Mrs Stevenson: description of unfurling on the Janet Nichol off Kuria. See Mrs Stevenson - Cruise, pp.11-12; 132-40.

FLAGS

ELLICE ISLANDS

(1) Vaitupu

1883

Report on Espiègle visit to Vaitupu in 1883 (Captain Bridge), p.15,
para.31.

FLAGS

TOKELAU ISLANDS

(1) Olosenga

1890

Stars and Stripes, with bird in the field: Mrs Stevenson - Cruise,
pp.33-34.

See Elder, J.R. "The Letters and Journals of Samuel Marsden 1765-1838".
Dunedin, 1932, and the letters there cited.

The pp. relating to the flag are 510-512.

.....

In 1834, owing to several vessels having been constructed in N.Z., and it being impossible to register them there owing to the absence of a National Ensign, the Queen of N.Z. set 3 designs to Busby for the approval of the chiefs. The one Busby offered had a white ground divided by St. George's Cross, the upper quarter being again divided by St. George's Cross, a white star in a blue field appearing in each of the smaller squares.

This flag was the National flag of N.Z. from 1834-1840. After accession of sovereignty to the Queen in 1840, the flag was superseded by the Union Jack & then adopted by the Shaw, Smeall and Allen shipping Company as their house flag.

Davidson, J. W. "European Penetration of the South Pacific 1779-1842". 1942. no.

Footnote (7) to p. 302. "The New Zealand flag (see above, 224-5) was officially described as 'a red St. George's Cross on a white ground. In the first quarter, a red St. George's Cross on a blue ground surmounted with four white stars'; there is a colour print of it in Yate, 'An Account of New Zealand ...', 21. ... The Society Islands and New Zealand colours were, of course, well known in many parts of the Pacific."

p. 224-5.

"Buxby now proposed that a New Zealand flag should be chosen - in the same way as a Tahitian flag had been adopted a few years before. It should be recognized by Great Britain (and presumably later by other Powers). A shipping register should then be inaugurated, the British Resident acting as registrar subject to removal Maori control. In this way New Zealand built vessels would be able to obtain in all British ports the treatment given to ships owned by the subjects of friendly Powers.²¹ Bunker approved of the proposal, and designs for the flag were sent to New Zealand by H.M.S. 'Alligator'. On 20 March 1834 Buxby held a meeting of chiefs at the Residency at Waitangi. One of the designs was chosen by vote and saluted with 21 guns by the 'Alligator'.²² In due course the flag was formally recognized by the Crown.²³ In the ensuing years it fluttered above Maori pa and over the homes of settlers in many

parts of the country, and shown by locally owned ships it was seen
on the New Zealand coast, in Australian parts and, it seems likely,
as far away as Valparaiso. 24

- 21 Bombe to Stanley, 29 April 1834 - H.R.A., I, XVII, 412.
- 22 Marshall, 'A Personal Narrative of Two Visits to New Zealand ... A.D.
1834', 104.
- 23 Aberdeen to Bombe, 21 December 1834 - H.R.A., I, XVII, 608.
- 24 For references to the use of the flag see especially Davis, 'The Life and
Times of Patane, the celebrated Ngapuhi Chief', 74; Banton, (ed.),
'Earliest New Zealand. The Journals and Correspondence of the Rev.
John Butler', 404; Evidence of John Blackbett before the Amoy
Committee in New Zealand, 1840 - P.P. 1840, (VII), 582, 63. For
reference to the voyage of the New Zealand registered ship 'Takanou'
(Takanou: the Maori name for the Bay of Islands) to Chile see 'Sydney
Gazette', 31 July 1838 (for her registry see H.R.N.Z., I, 757).

Note. In my edition of Yote (2nd) the colour print of the flag, which is a
remarkably fine one, faces p. 22.
