

THE BUCCANEER EXPLORER

WILLIAM DAMPIER'S VOYAGES

Edited and with an introduction by
GERALD NORRIS

THE BOYDELL PRESS

CONTENTS

Introduction: page ix

Chapter One: page 1

Outward bound to Jamaica and Mexico. Boobies, crabs, alligators and crocodiles. The logwood-cutters of Campeche. Hocking bullocks. The great storm. Ill-mannered monkeys and other animals. The natives of Villahermosa.

Chapter Two: page 29

A fresh start. An expedition over the Isthmus of Darien. The return journey. Mosquito Indians. The Islas del Maiz. Buccaneers off the coast of Venezuela. A cocoa plantation. Capture of a Danish slave ship. The Galápagos Islands. The death and burial of Captain Cook.

Chapter Three: page 55

North to Amapala. Buccaneers off the coast of Peru. Peruvian rafts. Rain. Debacle in Panama Bay. The capture of León. Avocado, guava, prickly pear, cochineal. El Bufadore. The treasure ships. Desperate diseases. Crossing the Pacific.

Chapter Four: page 79

Coconut and breadfruit. Mindanao and its people. Punishments. A Wapping bourgeois gentilhomme. The general's women. Some thoughts on differences in time. Captain Swan loses the *Cygnets*.

Chapter Five: page 107

A new captain. Flying foxes. Customs in Cochinchina. Observations on the Chinese. Typhoons and waterspouts. The Batan Islands, south of Taiwan. A visit to New Holland. The first Englishman sets foot on Australian soil. 'The miserablest people in the world.'

Chapter Six: page 127

Pirating off the coast of Sumatra. Life on Great Nicobar. A lingering view of approaching death. Arrival at Pulo Way. A voyage to Tonquin. Its food and climate. The people and their dwellings. Life in the city. Faith, feasts and funerals.

Chapter Seven: page 163

Boua and Choua, the rulers of old Vietnam. The military guard. Crime and punishment. Chopsticks. A social blunder. A Roman Catholic mission. A buccaneer's reflections on trade. The people of Sumatra.

Religion and the law. The painted prince. The death ship. Arrival at Table Bay. The Hodmadods. Zebras. The island of St Helena.

Chapter Eight: page 195

An Admiralty voyage to New Holland: the Preface. Sailing to Tenerife. The town of Laguna. An unhappy voyage to Brazil. The people of Bahia. On snakes. On sugar. Round the Cape of Good Hope and across the Indian Ocean. New Holland again. Its birds and animals. The land and its people. Arrival at Timor. The island of Sabuda. New Ireland, New Britain and Burning Island. Ascension Island and the end of the *Roebuck*.

Chapter Nine: page 235

Court martial and a disappointing engagement. Captain Dampier's Vindication. Dampier rebutted. The Manila ship. Dampier's Vindication continued. A final broadside. The rescue of Alexander Selkirk. The Manila galleon again. A second encounter. Safe haven.

List of Sources: page 260

Bibliography: page 261

Index: page 263