

VISIT OF ISLANDERS TO A  
PASSING VESSEL.

News of the Pitcairn islanders, the descendants of the mutineers of the Bounty, has been received through the medium of the Glasgow barque Wendur, which arrived yesterday at Plymouth with a cargo of wheat from Tacoma. Whilst sixteen miles off the Pitcairn Islands, on November 16 last, the Wendur was unexpectedly hailed at night by a sailing boat, in which were seventeen men and one woman (a Mrs. Christian), who had been sent out to intercept any passing vessel. The barque hove to, and Captain Blackstone invited the party aboard. They were, he states, very homely and polite people, eager to hear news of the world. They told him that the population of Pitcairn was 150, females being in the majority. The oldest inhabitant is Mr. Christian, who was born in the same year as the late Queen Victoria (1819), and is in remarkably good health. He is a grandson of the original Christian, one of the Bounty mutineers.

The visitors explained that about twenty ships are sighted annually. Once a year a trading schooner visits the island with supplies of clothes. Passing vessels, they explained, frequently gave the islanders money to purchase clothing for the females, and there was a good deal of bartering done, fruit and other edibles being exchanged for clothing and gifts of literature. Almost without exception visitors to the Wendur spoke enthusiastically of the joys of their life at Pitcairn.

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