

NEW GUINEA AND OTHER ISLANDS.

362. NEW GUINEA, NEW BRITAIN, and the neighbouring islands, lying in the north-eastern part of Australasia, have been little examined.

They are rich in vegetable productions, and are distinguished as the chief residence of the bird of paradise.

363. NEW CALEDONIA and the NEW HEBRIDES are said to be barren and rocky islands. The people build neat huts, and subsist on roots and fish.

Questions.—I. What islands lie north of New Holland? What is known of them? What are east of New Holland? What can you say of them?

POLYNESIA.



Human Sacrifice in Polynesia.

364. Polynesia includes the islands in the Pacific Ocean, which lie east of the Philippine Islands and Australasia. (*See map of the World.*) In almost all these islands, they have been accustomed to sacrifice human victims to their gods.

365. The climate of these islands is generally delightful, and they abound in fine fruits, especially the bread-fruit, which is used instead of bread.

366. The people are remarkably mild, polite and ingenious, for barbarians; but dishonest, vicious, and cruel in many of their customs.