

sunt natura pavidi ac timidi. Ceterum ubi se cernunt tutos, omni metu repulso sunt admodum simplices ac bonae fidei et in omnibus, quae habent, liberalissimi. Roganti, quod possidet, infitiat nemo. Quin ipsi nos ad id poscendum
25 invitant. Maximum erga omnes amorem prae se ferunt.

TRANSLATION

Indeed the inhabitants of both sexes of this and of all other (islands) which I saw and of which I have knowledge always walk about nude, in the same manner in which they are born into life, except some of the women, who cover some shameful parts with a leaf or bough or cotton veil, which they themselves [note: Late Latin *ipse* = *ipsae*] prepare for that purpose. All these lack (as I have said before) iron of whatever kind. They also lack arms inasmuch as they are unknown to them, and they are not suited to them; not on account of deformity of body (since they are well formed) but because they are timid and full of fear. They nevertheless carry for weapons reeds thoroughly dried (burned) by the sun, in whose bases they affix a certain spear of dried wood sharpened to a point; neither do they dare to use these continuously. For often it happens that, although I have sent two or three men of mine to certain dwellings, so that they may speak to their inhabitants, a crowded line has gone out (to have gone out) from the Indians and, when they have seen that our men approach (our men to approach), quickly has taken (to have taken) flight, children being deserted by their father and vice versa; and this not because any loss or injury of them had been brought. On the contrary to whomever I approached and with whom I was able to complete words, whatever I had I gave freely: cloth or many other things, nothing done for me in exchange. But they are by nature nervous and fearful. For the rest, when they see they (are) safe, all fear having been driven away they are very simple and of good faith, and in all things which they have, very generous. No man denies whatever he has to one asking. In fact they encourage us to demand it (for it to be demanded). They bear the greatest love toward all men before themselves.