

A snippet of a handwritten manuscript in cursive script on aged paper. The text describes an encounter with indigenous people on a shore, where they offered to carry the writer on their shoulders to help him navigate rocky terrain. The writer mentions having shoes while the indigenous people did not, and notes that he declined their offer.

## Transcription (normalised)

'During the few minutes we were walking on shore, the Indians, to show their civility, would not permit us to walk, without each arm being lodged on one of their shoulders, for our indulgence; and when we came to a piece of cragged rocky ground, they were very desirous of carrying me on their shoulders, to spare my feet, tho' I had shoes, and they had none, however I did not accept the offer.'

## William Gooch's journal (Marquesans offering to help)

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1792

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### Description

In this extract, William describes the Marquesans' (Indians) attempts to help him walk on shore. They insisted that he put his arms over their shoulders and even offered to carry him some of the way!

### Questions

1. Who does William mean when he refers to the 'Indians'?
2. Why might he use this name?
3. Why do you think the Marquesans wanted to carry William when he had shoes and they had none?
4. Why do you think William refused?