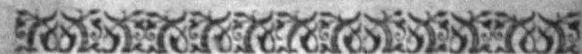


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NARRATIVE
OF THE
Ship BOSCAWEN'S Voyage
TO
Bombay in the East-Indies, &c.

[Price Eighteen-Pence.]



The Second Edition.

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JOURNAL
OR
NARRATIVE
OF THE
BOSCAWEN'S Voyage
TO
Bombay in the East-Indies,

BENJAMIN BRAUND, Commander.

WITH

Remarks on her Remarkable quick Passage
thither, and some surprizing Events that
occur'd during the same, *Anno 1749.*

By a YOUNG GENTLEMAN,
Passenger on Board;

Communicated to his Father in *London, Aug. 1750.*

To which are added,

TWO LETTERS Sign'd PHILALETHERS, address'd
to, and return'd from the REMEMBRANCER;
with the REMEMBRANCER'S Reasons for return-
ing those Letters,

ALSO

Some Occasional THOUGHTS on Freedom in Trade, High
Duties, Smuggling, Shipwrecks, &c. as spoken to a So-
CIETY for FREE ENQUIRY, *November 1747.*

By PHILALETHERS,
A MEMBER thereof.

The Second Edition.

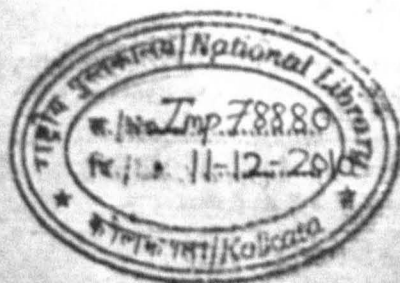
L O N D O N;

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Advertisement.

IT may not be improper to observe here, by way of Preface to the candid Reader, that the young Author of the following Sheets wrote them without the least Intention of their being published, but for his and his Father's Amusement only.





A
NARRATIVE
OF THE
Ship BOSCAWEN'S Voyage
TO
BOMBAY, &c.



THE Ship having received her Cargoe, consisting of Bales of Cloth, Lead, Steel, Iron, Anchors, Cables, &c. Stores for the Men of War in *India*, as also thirty Chests of Treasure, the Captain took his Leave of the Court of Directors the Beginning of *March*, and went on board her at
B Gravesend

Gravesend, in order to proceed on his Voyage, in Company with the *Salisbury*, Capt. *Burroughs*, and the *Warren*, Capt. *Glover*, who were likewise bound for *Bombay*. Accordingly they got down to the *Hope* in a few Hours, but the Wind then coming about to the N.E. obliged them to anchor, where I, having left *London* on *Thursday* the 16th, to embark in the *Downs*, discerned them from the Road near *Rochester*, which freed me from any Apprehensions of the Ship's getting there first; therefore went to to take my Leave of a Friend near *Federham*; where I stayed the next Day, and got to *Deal* on *Saturday* Evening, together with the Purser, who had brought the Dispatches, and three other of my Ship Mates, to my no small Satisfaction; as the Pleasure of their Company alone could make my Stay, at that wretched Place, in any Measure agreeable; it consisting of three very narrow long Streets, one behind another, with miserable little Houses and Shops, three 4ths of which sell nothing else but Gin and Tobacco, and the Inhabitants being almost all Pilots and Boat-builders: Add to this, that the Provisions are very indifferent, but for which they charge exorbitantly,

orbitantly, made us very impatient for our Ship's Arrival. The only Manner we could amuse ourselves, was, in reading the News-Papers, which came in thrice a-Week, and in walking a little Distance into the Fields towards *Warner* and *Sandown Castles*, to look at the *French Shore*, (there being only two or three small Vessels in the *Downs*) where we might always be ready to go off at the least Warning.

Our only Motives for coming down here, were, that we might thereby enjoy our Friends a little while longer in Town, and avoid coming round in the Ship, which often proves the worst Part of the Voyage, not only from the confused State Things then are in, but the Danger of running upon some of the Sands and Shoals, which, in two or three Days, to our great Concern, we heard our Ship had had the Misfortune to do, betwixt the *Hope* and the *Flatts*, by the Pilot's Mistake; which so terrified him, that he would not pass them with the other Ships, though the *Warren* drew above a Foot more Water, and succeeded: However, I must own it was a bold Attempt; for although the Tide was

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at its greatest Height, she touched the Ground twice; and must, in all Probability, have over-set, as it ebbed, had she stuck fast in that critical Place: Our Pilot, therefore, went round the *Swin*, which gave them the Start of us; insomuch that we at *Deal* had the Mortification to see them come into the *Downs* on the 22d; and, after bringing to for their Purfers, make Sail, having a fine N. E. Wind, which would clear them of the Channel in forty-eight Hours; so that we despaired of over-taking them before we should get to *Bombay*. However, on the 25th in the Evening, our Ship arrived; but, as the Wind was at S. W. we expected to be detained some time longer; yet, to our great Joy, we were awakened at Five the next Morning, with the Signal for Sailing, the Wind having come about to the Eastward; therefore went off immediately, being so lucky to have but a little Surf, and were under Sail in an Hour after, in company with four or five Ships bound to the *West Indies, America, &c.* which we separated from in a Day or two. On my coming on board I was vastly pleased with the Ship, she being a Three-decker, quite
new

new, and the largest in the Service, measuring 108 Feet long by the Keel, and 35 Feet broad by the Beam; mounting 24 Nine-pounders, drawing but 18 Feet Water, which is one less than our Ships generally do, and having a very good Crew of 100 Men: This was the more heightened on my enquiring about her being a-ground; finding that, though she remained there six Hours, having but eight Feet at Low-water, she did not give above two or three Thumps and had not leaked; therefore concluded she had met with no Damage.

ABOUT Nine in the Morning, we were off of *Dover*, where our Pilot left us: Towards Noon we had some Squalls with dirty, rainy Weather, which made us fear we should be obliged to put back again; and, to render it yet more disagreeable, I found, by this time, that the Ship's Motion began to affect me so much, that I had very little Inclination for my Dinner, more than several others of my Mess-mates, the Number of whom I found to be Fifteen, viz. Mess. *Peisley*, *Mann*, *Stuart*, *Geekie*, *Lambert*, *Parsons*, and *Dreper*, who were all Passengers, (the two first being designed

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as Super-cargoes from *Bombay* to *Mocha*, and the rest to settle at the former Place in the Company's Service) Capt. *Braund*, Mr. *Larkins* and Mr. *Haddock*, chief and second Mates, Mr. *Mitchell* Surgeon, Mr. *Evans* Purser, Mr. *Kiffin* Captain's Clerk, and Mess. *Hill* and *Musgrave*, Guinea Piggs. I spent the Afternoon in finding out my Chest, &c. and in getting my Hammock ready to put up at Night, by which time I was immoderately Sea-sick ; but continued so, thank God, only thirty Hours : Whereas Mess. *Geekie*, *Parsons*, and *Lambert*, were unhappy enough to have it for a Fortnight or three Weeks. Persons with this Complaint are very seldom pitied, as it is never attended with any bad Consequence, but, on the contrary, esteem'd to contribute very much to one's Health ; yet I sincerely believe it is of all others the most intolerable. At Sun-set *Beachy-head* bore N.W. half W. Distance 5 Leagues.

By the next Day (the 27th) at Noon, we had run 119 Miles, having steered S. W. by W. and W. S. W. with the Wind at S. S. E. and S. by E. hazy Weather, when Cape *Barfleur* bore W. half N, distance 5 Leagues,
but

but the Wind shifting to the S. E. in the Afternoon, tack'd, and, at Four, *Cape La Hogue* bore W. by S. distance 6 Leagues.

THE next Day (*Tuesday*) at Sun-rise, the *Casquetts* S. W. by W. the Body of the Island of *Alderney* S. S. W. half W. distant three Leagues. — At Noon *Cape La Hogue* S. W. half S. *Alderney* W. S. W. distant from the *Cape* 5 Leagues. — We had Soundings from 35 to 42 Fathom, with light Gales, some Part calm and fair Weather, run *per* Logg 44 Miles. — We had a good View of the Country, discerning two or three small Villages and Churches, which seem'd vastly pleasant, and to deserve a less tyrannical Ruler; but the Wind inclining to the N. W. in the Evening stood over for our own Coast; and the rather, to avoid that dreadful *Race*, on which many conjecture the *Victory* perished.

ON *Wednesday* the 29th had 45 Miles *per* Log, steer'd W. N. W. & W. Towards Sun-set it fell calm, at which time the *Start Point* in *Devonshire* bore N. half E. distant 8 Leagues; from whence we took our Departure, allowing it to lie in Lat. 50 Deg, 6 Min.

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6 Min. N. and as the Wind presently after sprung up at N. E. encreasing to a fine seven-knot Gale, I bid it Farewel, not expecting to see it again for many Years.

THE next Morning at Nine, kept her W.S.W. the Gale continuing, had run 100 Miles by Noon, and reckoned ourselves pretty clear of the Channel, making 1 deg. 27 min. W. Meridian Distance, and not veering from that Quarter till *Monday* the 3d of *April*, running 130 Miles *per* Day; at which time were in Lat. 44 deg. 38 min. Meridian Distance 6 deg. 25 min. W. from the *Start*, when the Wind shifted to the S.W. with hard Squalls and Rain, accompanied with a great Sea, which made the Ship pitch very much, and obliged us to bring to 10 or 12 Hours, being now in the Middle of the Bay of *Biscay*, which rendered it very uncomfortable: However, on *Wednesday* the 5th, the Wind came about to W.N.W. a settled five or six-knot Gale, the Sea greatly abated, steered S. W. by S. and remained in that Quarter till the 7th; at which time saw two Sail, and being large Ships standing the same Way as we did, made us vain enough to think we had already

ready

ready over-taken the *Warren* and *Salisbury*; but, on nearing them, discovered they were *French*, and took them to be bound for *Martinico*.

WE had now got the Wind at N.E. again; a pleasant seven-knot an Hour Gale, and fair Weather; so that we set our studding Sails, and that Afternoon saw a *Dutch* Ship, which gave us Hopes of the Opportunity of writing to our Friends, as we wanted very much to acquaint them with our Out-set; but on speaking to her, found she was bound to the Coast of *Angola* for Slaves, and thence to the *West Indies*; which, as they make such tedious Voyages, we did not doubt but our Letters would get home, perhaps, as soon from *Bombay*; therefore contented ourselves with desiring, if she met with any *English* Ship, to tell them where she had seen us; and, having wished her a good Voyage, in four or five Hours we run her out of Sight; which gave us great Satisfaction, in that we hoped from thence, we sailed well, this being the first time we had of trying it.

THE Weather continued the same till *Sunday* the 9th, when we were in the Lat. of 34 deg. 52 min. N. Meridian Distance 9 deg. 23 min. W. and this Day, being fine Weather, the Captain ordered Prayers to be read; which he declared he would always repeat when the Weather would permit; but we remarked in our Passage, that it was our foul-weather Day, having only one more such after that. The Purser officiated, and acquitted himself extremely well, and great Decency and Decorum were observed.— Found ourselves at that time in a charming, pleasant Climate, the Weather agreeably warm, and being now quite settled for passing five Months in the watery Element, beg your Leave, Sir, to take Notice how Things were conducted regarding us Passengers in order to it:

THE Doctor being appointed Caterer, and the Purser to preside at the Tea-Table, we assembled fifteen of us, as I before observed, at Eight every Morning to Breakfast in the Round-house, when we had always Tea, and sometimes Chocolate; with Biscuit and Butter in Plenty; neither did

did we want Milk, having a fine Goat that supplied us with it all the Passage : At Twelve we dined, the Table being always served with four to six Dishes of fresh Provisions, and equally well in regard to Drink, having Wine, Punch, and Beer : In short, we had every Thing we possibly could have, or the Shore could afford, except Greens and Fruit : At Four every Afternoon there was Tea and Coffee, but our Number being too great to admit of us all, the following partook of it with the Captain : Mess. *Peisley, Mann, Stuart*, the Doctor, Purser, chief Mate and second Mate, and myself : Then at Eight we all met again at Supper, when we had generally one Dish warm, with some Remains of the Dinner ; and, before we separated from Dinner and Supper, we drank these three Toasts ; *To all our absent Friends ; To the Continuance and Encrease of the Wind*, if it was fair ; or *To a fair One*, when it was not so ; and *To a happy Sight of the next Land we intended to make*. — I must digress a little more to inform you in what Manner I spent my Time.

IN fair Weather (for when it was otherwise I killed it as well as I could) the first Thing I did was to walk the Deck every Morning about two Hours, and being a three-deck'd Ship, had the Advantage of a very good Space from the Mizzen-Mast to the Main-Tack, being near seventy Feet long; after that retired to my Cabin, and read or wrote till Dinner-time; but it was seldom her Pitching or Rolling would admit the latter with any Pleasure: After that was over, and I had taken two or three Turns, I resumed the same Employment till Tea; from that to Six I walked again, finding it very necessary to use much Exercise. Then every other Night, when it was not Mr. *Larkin's* Watch, play'd at Whist with him, Mr. *Stuart*, and Mr. *Geekie*, till Supper; and, though we play'd for nothing, were nevertheless attentive; and which improved me a good Deal in the Knowledge of that Game: But the Weather being generally hot, took it by Turns, Week about, to make a Bowl of Punch at that Time. — The Captain, Mess. *Peisley*, *Mann*, and the Doctor, made another Party. — On other Evenings we were entertained, either with
a Tune.

a Tune on the Violin by Mr. *Stuart*, or a Song by the Purser; and though neither to that Perfection as I had heard from *Defesch* and *Beard*, yet, in our Circumstances, it was thought very agreeable. Mr. *Peisley* likewise sometimes favoured us with a Song after Supper. Then, without the Night was very inviting indeed (which sometimes tempted me to sit up the first Watch,) I went to sleep.

BUT to return to the Ship: As I before observed, we were on the 9th of *April*, in Lat. 34deg. 52min. N. having a fine steady Gale at N. E. with pleasant Weather and smooth Water, which continued till the 12th; in which Interval steered S. W. by S. and S. S. W. and run about 130 Miles *per* Day. At nine that Morning made two of the *Canary Islands*, bearing S. W. by W. about seven Leagues; but not having had an Observation for two or three Days before, and the Top of the Land being obscured by the Clouds, we could not be certain which of them they were, only guessed the largest to be either the *Pike of Teneriff*, or the *Grand Canary*.—This deprived us of the Satisfaction of correcting our Reckonings, as also
of.

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of seeing the highest and most remarkable Land in the World. Our Latitude *per Account* was then 28 deg. 33 min. N. and Meridian Distance 10 deg. 55 min. W. from the *Start*; however, we had a fresh eight-knot Gale at N. E. to make us Amends for it. The Land at Four in the Afternoon, bearing N.N.W. distant 15 or 16 Leagues, steered to the S.W. and had 10 deg. 40 min. W. Variation. On Saturday the 15th we crossed the Tropic of *Cancer*; and, at the same time, caught the N.E. Trade-Wind, blowing in fine pleasant Gales, with fair Weather and smooth Water; to which we carried all the Sail we could set, that we might, if possible, get a-head of the other Ships, which we had great Hopes of, as we run from 120 to 150 Miles *per Day*, till Sunday the 23d of *April*, when we had run through it, being then in Lat. 6 deg. 34 min. N. Meridian Distance 14 deg. 41 min. W. from the *Start*.

If there is any Pleasure in Sailing, it must be in these periodical Trade Winds, being much the most agreeable Part of any in the Voyage, and without the Help of
which

which, there would be no such Thing as performing such distant ones, as the time it would necessarily take to encounter variable Winds all the Way, would make it almost impracticable.

I SHOULD have observed before, That on the 7th of *April*, we were in the Latitude of *Bombay*; so that we had the remaining Part of the Voyage to charge the Isthmus of *Suez* in the *Mediterranean* with, which alone prevents our going there in five or six Weeks instead of so many Months. —The next Day we looked out for the *Cape de Verde Islands*, but did not see them; so judge we went between them and the Continent.

I SHOULD likewise have observed, That on the 19th we passed the Sun being in 15 Degrees North Latitude; and from that time standing South, where he had shed his Beams with the greatest Influence, we found it insufferably hot; so that we were obliged to shake off our Cloth Waistcoats, worsted Stockings, Blankets, &c. and it was still more so when we lost the Trade, in running through which we saw some Tur-
tles

tles or Sea-Tortoises, which are delicious Eating, but did not think it worth our while to bring the Ship to, to catch them.—We saw very few Bonetas, Albicores, or other Fish generally met with in great Plenty, except flying Fish: These are very pretty, being from 6 to 20 Inches long, shaped like a Smelt, and have two long Fins which enable them to fly a considerable Way when closely pursued by the before-mentioned Fish that prey on them, the Duration of which continues, as I imagine, no longer than the Moisture of their Fins repels the circumambient Air; yet though Providence has furnish'd them with such means of escaping their Jaws, so hard is their Fate, that in avoiding them, they are often snapt up by the *Men of War* and other large Birds of Prey, which are continually hovering about the Surface of the Water for that Purpose, as we often observed.

THE N. E. Trade failing on the 23d of *April*, as before observed, in Latitude 6 deg. 34 min. N. we were from that Time troubled with Calms and Tornadoes (as are always met with in this Part of the World) till we were taken up by the S. E. Trade-Wind

Wind, which we fell into on *Wednesday* the 3d of *May*.

DURING this Period we had it sometimes calm, at others it would blow so violently in Squalls, which were generally between the South and West, as to make the Ship run nine * Knots an Hour, attended with heavy Rain for Hours together, with Abundance of Thunder and Lightning; add to this, a strong S. E. Current, which made us fear being driven so far to the Eastward into the Bite of *Benin*, as would endanger our being becalmed in this shocking Latitude for some Weeks, as several Ships have been; and all this Time it was most sultry hot, so that I was greatly molested with what is called the prickly Heat, which manifests itself in small superficial Eruptions all over the Body, and vastly impatient of the S. E. Trade-Wind, for, take it altogether, I really think this the most disagreeable Part of the Voyage, not advancing above 20 or 30 Miles *per* Day, and had it dark between five and six o'Clock. The only Occurrences that can be called pleasant, are the beautiful clouded Skies we sometimes see when it is fair.

* A Knot is a Mile.

ONCE, it being perfectly calm, we lowered into the Sea a Bottle corked up, to try whether the Weight of the Water would force the Cork into the Bottle, and, having let go 140 Yards of Line, found it did.—At other Times, when it rained excessive hard, we made the Boys roll themselves in it upon Deck to clean them. In short, we were glad to do any Thing to kill Time, but our chief Employment was in catching Sharks, of which there were one Day forty or fifty about the Ship, which confirmed us the more in our being too near the Coast of *Guinea*. I could not but behold these devouring Devils with great Horror, on thinking how they would tear and mangle one to Pieces: and the more so, as I had a very narrow Escape, a few Days before, from them. It was thus: The first we saw we were very busy in the Balcony in looking at, and trying to catch them, as were several upon the Poop; now the Balcony in our Ship was taken off of the Round-House, and consequently did not project over the Stern, as most do; it was about three Feet wide, and fifteen long in which we crouded about a Dozen of us; there was a narrow folding Door open into the
Round-

Round-House, as also some of the Windows next to it. While we were all taken up in seeing the Sharks about the Baits, one of the Hooks belonging to the People on the Poop, by a sudden Jerk, run through the fleshy Part of the Back of one about eight Feet long, and they being entirely ignorant how the Hook had taken, immediately began to hawl him upon the Poop; and tho' the Captain ordered them to desist, they were so regardless as not to attend to it, and had got him as high as the Balcony in an Instant: I was so lucky to be next the Door, and so got first into the Round-House, others forced themselves through the Windows. In short, I never saw so much scuffling and Fright among any People in my Life, and can only be equalled by that which I conceive must be occasioned by a House being on Fire. In this Extremity not above a Third of us had freed ourselves, and they had got the Shark up to the Taffaril, which is right over the Balcony, and, in endeavouring to force him over the carved Work above it, what with his own Weight and violent struggling he tore himself off the Hook, and very happily fell into the Sea, clear of the Balcony, or it is not to be imagined

gined what Misery they would have been reduced to, it being impossible they could have extricated themselves; for, had he tumbled into the Balcony, he would certainly have bit some of their Limbs off, or have broke them by his flouncing about; or had they been able to swim, and, to avoid him, had jumped over-board, there were half a Score more in the Water ready to devour them; and, to make it worse, there were some Dozens of Bottles in the Balcony to confine them still more; however, as it happened, they no sooner recovered their Spirits, but it occasioned a loud Laugh; nevertheless making me resolve not to be so busy at a Shark-catching again.—We enquired who was concerned in it, but could not find it out; and the rest they caught, they took Care to pass a Rope round the Body, and hawl them up the Gangway, or to keep them so long in the Water after they were hooked, that they drowned themselves; which occasioned a good deal of Diversion when we had two or three, by their buffet-ing one another, and gave us an Opportunity of striking (with a Harpoon) the Pilot Fishes which constantly attend them. These

are

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are the Size of a Roach and very good Eating. — One Sort of the Sharks are reckoned fit to eat, which are immediately cut to Pieces by the Sailors, while those who can't get a Share, throw Buckets of Water on them. — We likewise got some Dolphins, (which are very good) They are caught by quickly skimming the Surface of the Water with a Hook, which is run through a Piece of Wax Candle, and a Feather stuck on each side, to make it resemble a Flying Fish. These are from one to four or five Feet long, very slim, and well shaped, being the most beautiful Fish that swims, having as fine Colours and as great a Variety as any Bird. — So much do the Sign-Painters wrong them in their Description.

ON *Wednesday* the 3d of *May*, as already observed, we got the S. E. Trade Wind in 40 min. North, and the same day crossed the Equinoctial, (just 35 Days from our Departure from the Channel) being 14 deg. 9 min. W. Meridian Distance from the *Start*, departing thence *March* 29, having about 7 deg. W. Variation. The next Day, according to Custom, all the People were mustered to know how many had not crossed it

before, that they might forfeit each their Bottle of Brandy and Pound of Sugar, or be ducked; there were found to be 71, five of whom preferred the latter, therefore the Ship was immediately brought too, and it was done by making them fast with a Rope round the Waist, and letting them fall soule into the Water from the Main Yard Arm, which was repeated three times to each Person, and is at least fifty Feet high. I was in some Fear for the first that underwent this Discipline, as I thought it looked a good deal like an Execution, but found he regarded it so little, that the Moment he was hoisted up, he laughed at it.

Our new Trade Wind continued to blow in pleasant Gales, with fine temperate Weather, we running from 100 to 120 Miles per Day, S. by W. and S. S. W. till the 10th, at which Time being got into the Lat. of 11 deg. 18 min. S. Meridian Distance 17 deg. 57 min. W. the Weather proved very squall andy unsettled, and the Wind came about to the S. W. and continued some Hours, which obliged us to tack, a Thing very uncommon in the Heart of a Trade; and when it shifted again, we often had it no farther

farther to the Eastward than S.S.E. for four or five Days, with very gloomy Weather, and a large head Swell, which made us apprehensive we should not be able to clear the Coast of *Brazil*, in which case we should have been obliged to stand to the Northward, so, though in such a vast Ocean, yet found it hardly wide enough for these Ships to traverse; but what gave us so much Uneasiness on the other Side the Line, for fear of being set too far to the Eastward by the Currents we met with,* now proved a great Consolation to us, as we thereby gained so much to Windward. About the 16th it came to E. S. E. and blew much steadier, with fair Weather, till we lost it on the 20th about the Tropick of *Capricorn*, but upon the whole reckoned it a very unfavourable Trade. We had by this Time lost Sight of the North Star, which was made up to us by seeing the *Crosciers* and *Magellan* Clouds, so called from their being always in the Lat. of the Streights of *Magellan*. — Saw Bonetas, Albicores, and other Fish and Birds, which are usually met with in the Trade.

* This, 'tis to be feared, might be the Cause of the Loss of the *Cumberland* in *January* last.

AFTER that, however, when we expected to meet with Calms and variable Winds, till we should get into 30 deg, where the N. W. and S. Westers begin, had the Wind come about to the N. E. gradually encreasing to an eight-knot Gale, and held for three or four Days with such constant settl'd Weather and smooth Water, that we carried our top-gallant Sails and studding Sails, steering S. E. but we made before then above 23 deg. Meridian Distance West from the *Start*. So hard is it, that when bound to the East-Indies we must go one half of the Voyage to the Westward.

KEPT a good Look out for the Island of *Trinidad*, which we were certain could not be far off, not only from the Variation we made, but the vast Flocks of Birds we saw.

THIS fine Wind, then, we were so fortunate to meet with, had by the 24th of *May* brought us into the Lat. of 32 deg. S. from that to *Sunday* the 28th, had E. S. E. Winds and unsettl'd Weather, with some Squalls and Rain, in which Space we bent the best Suit of Sails, set up the Rigging, reeved a new Tiller-

Tiller-Rope, hung the Chains to secure the Rudder, put up the dead Lights, shut in all the half Ports, which made us as dark as a Dungeon, lashed all the Moveables, and in every Shape prepared for encountering the boisterous Gales and large Seas we expected to have in running down our Easting. Accordingly a fresh N. Wester coming on that Day, we began to compute how long we should be to the *Cape*, from whence we reckoned ourselves full 40 deg. the most sanguine allowed a Fortnight, being then in Lat. 35 deg. 20 min. S. between which and 34 we kept her, finding we had there Wind sufficient, running every day till we made it from 150 to upwards of 200 Miles *per* Day.

WE were now advanced into the most tiresome Part of the Voyage; for, as an Addition to the Wind, we had very large Seas, hard Squalls, abundance of Rain, Hail, Thunder and Lightning, with short Days, (Sun setting between 4 and 5) and dismal cloudy, cold Weather, so that we could very well bear our *European* Drefs again; but what rendered it most uncomfortable, there was no such thing as standing or sitting without continually

continually taking fast hold of some fixed Body, from the Ship's constantly rowling almost Gunwall to. We were forc'd at Meals to sit upon the Deck with every one his Plate in his Hand, and had generally some Diversion from our being tossed from one Side to the other, which likewise occasioned a great Havock among the Glasses, Cups, &c. — At Night were always kept awake, tho' we laid in Hammocks, either from the Ship's violent Agitations, the Sea's beating in, or something giving way; but, indeed, that too, now and then, contributed to divert us, as I remember on one of them, the steerage Ladder got loose, having at the same time a Case of Liquors lashed to it, and kept exact Time with the Ship's rowling, in rumbling from Side to Side, crushing all the small Boxes to Atoms that stood in its Way, till the People could be spared to secure it; but had the Satisfaction in these hard Gales to find the Ship had the good Quality of answering her Helm extremely well.

SAW hereabouts some Grampuses, a great many Albatrosses, Pintada, or painted Birds, and *Preflor John's* Geese, Birds always met with in these high Southern Latitudes. The Albatrosses

Albatrosses are very ugly, having sometimes Wings which spread 15 Feet, but a small Body, with white and brown Feathers, so that it flies vastly fast. The Pintada's, or painted Birds, are very pretty, being spotted with a clear black and white, are the Size of a Pidgeon, and like all other Sea Birds, web-footed : We caught several with a Hook and Line, and Piece of Pork.

I HAVE now to take Notice of the Advantages we reaped by being in a three-decked Ship, which, besides that of a fine long Walk, are several others more material ; as, having twice the Room for the People's Hammocks, their being sheltered from the Sea, the Conveniency of the Officers running fore and aft in an Instant upon any Emergency, and walking dry almost all Weathers. Besides, I verily believe it to add to the Safety of a Ship, for when a Sea broke in thereabouts, I mean at Midships, the Gunwall not being more than a Foot above it, it passed off immediately ; whereas in a Two-decker the Wasse is entirely open to it, and, when full, contains so great a Body of Water, as makes them liable to fatal Consequences. — They, indeed, can stow all their Boats there, and we were obliged

to have one lashed over the Gratings on the Quarter Deck ; but that is such a trifling Advantage, in Comparison to those far superior of ours, that I shall wonder if the Company don't order all their Ships to be built in the same Manner.

ON the 6th of *June* we saw a Sail a good Way a-head, which gave us great Hopes of having overtaken one of our Consorts ; but, on speaking with her, proved to be a *Dutch* Ship bound to *Batavia*. She had the Complaisance, on discovering us, to bring to, and hoist her Colours, which most of them will not deign to do, and his Behaviour was so remarkably genteel, I must do him the Justice to relate it. — She was called the *Aanfsleen*, Capt. *Barrow*, Commander, and had been three Months and a half from *Holland*, observed one of his Quarter-Galleries had been carried away, yet, tho' they had made so long a Passage his Men were in Health ; who, as near as we could guess, were three times our Number, tho' a much less Ship, therefore supposed were to recruit their Garrisons. He designed to put into the *Cape of Good Hope*, but as we did not imagine there would be a Ship there for a long

long Time, homeward bound, to forward any Letters, contented ourselves with informing him who we were; and, as our Course was more Southerly, wished him a good Voyage, and after his returning the like Compliment, were going to crowd away, when we were prevented by his going upon the Poop with a Bottle and Glafs, and drinking our Healths. We ranged ourselves along the Ship's Side and in the Shrouds, and gave him three Cheers, which he likewise returned. At the same Time we were entertained with the Fife and Tabor (the most agreeable Sound we had heard a long Time) and he saluted us with 9 Guns, which we answered, and then he gave us one more, being an extraordinary high Compliment. — Thus we parted from *Mynbeer* with vast Admiration, as his Countrymen are not commonly known to be over and above guilty of such Civilities; therefore I concluded him to be an honest Stadtholder's Man, and should have been very glad to have accompanied him into that most delightful Place, which abounds with all Manner of Refreshments; for, by this Time, tho' we were all well, which I believe the People's Forfeitures, as managed, and our *Ventilator* contributed

tributed greatly to, they having had Punch twice or thrice a Week since we were upon the Line, begun to be tired of the Sea, and wish for some Oranges, Greens, &c.

AND now, as we approached the *Cape*, being, by our reckoning, 430 Miles distant, and by the *Dutchman's* 720 (but from the high Variation esteemed our own the best), we were surprized to find the Weather vastly more moderate with smooth Water, inso-much that we carried our studding Sails and top-gallant Sails, which gave us great Hopes we should pass this Corner of Land, so famous for bad Weather, very quickly, tho' it was the Depth of Winter. Accordingly on the 10th of *June*, at 8 in the Morning, we got Soundings on the *Cape* Bank, 92 Fathom, seeing at the same Time Gannets (a good deal like Wild Geese) and Trunk Weeds, which are infallible Signs of it. We then hauled up to make the Land, and a Gallon of Brandy being offered to those who should see it first, about Noon discovered *Cape Legullas*, or *Cape L' Aguillas*, signifying (from its several projecting Spires, as named by the *Portuguese*, its first Discovereres, *Anno* 1498) the *Cape of the Needles*, the extreme

Part

Part of *Africa* bearing N. E. half E. distant 7 Leagues, from whence took our Departure, it lying in Lat. 35 deg. 20 min. S. Meridian Distance from the *Start* 18 deg. 50 min. E. — Found the Ship two Degrees a-head of our Reckoning, therefore thought the Current we had on the other Side the Line, set us so much farther to the Eastward than we allowed for.

WE had then a fine fresh Gale, steered S. E. by E. running 194 Miles by the next Day, *Sunday*, the 11th at Noon; but by that Time the Wind and Sea were both risen to such a prodigious violent Degree, that it commenced a Storm, and continued with equal Fury till *Monday* Afternoon; besides which, we had every now and then such Gusts of Wind with Rain as exceeds all Description in Writing. The Sea too surpassed any that ever any of us had seen before, in Respect of Danger, the Tongue or Pen can convey but faint Images of this Picture; for it did not take a long Scope in breaking and discharging its Rage, as it mostly does in this Part of the World, but as soon as it had rose to its greatest Height, slap it came upon us; and tho' the Wind very fortunately did

did not vary from W. N. W. all the Time; yet it run counter, which we attributed to being on the Bank, and were very happy in this Particular; for the opposite Point was the Course we wanted to steer, tho' had it been any other, ever so much out of the Way, we must have scudded before it. We carried the Sprit-sail, Fore-sail, and Fore-top-sail, treble reev'd to it, and run 214 Miles. About 4 in the Afternoon we shipt a Sea on the starboard Quarter, the Force of which carried all the Men from the Helm, tho' there were six at it, but having the Quarter Masters to direct her in the Gun Room, it proved of no bad Consequence; it also carried away the starboard Gallery, entire, and wrung off the Heads of the Iron Hooks, to which the Yawl was lashed on the Gratings on the Quarter Deck, and stove her all to Pieces against the Guns. Two of our People being in the Way, one had a Rib broke, and the other his Foot crushed to Mummy. Several others were hurt, and, I can assure you, the stoutest thoroughly sensible of our melancholy Situation. At this Time Mess. *Man, Stuart*, and myself, were sitting on the starboard Side of the Steerage, when she heeled so much as to force us from our Hold

to the opposite Side, so quickly, that the former put his Elbow out by catching at a Stanchan, the other got a large Cut in the Calf of his Leg, and myself a very bad Bruise on mine by some Chests giving way, and received such a Quantity of Water, that we thought *Old Ocean* was coming down the Hatchway. Upon this we immediately went into the Round-house, as the most secure Part of the Ship, and was presently join'd by the rest of our Messmates, as the best Service we Lumber of Passengers could do her, was to get out of the Sailors Way. Here we sat pensive, surrounded in the Billows of this dark and tempestuous Night, keeping almost a profound Silence, occasioned by the dismal Situation we were in. At Seven we received a second Sea on the starboard Quarter, which forced all the People a second time from the Helm, and in Conjunction with the Deep-heel it gave her, sent the foremost Gun on the larboard Side of the Quarter-deck over-board, though it left the Carriage entire, and the Forelocks hitch'd; therefore the Nuts, which ought to have been the strongest, must have given way; demolish'd the Coops and all the

Poultry, both there and on the Poop; and drove a Chest of Wine from under the Auning, which hurting some of the People, their Cries made me in the Round-house imagine it was owing to their Apprehensions of Danger; and, as she laid down in such a Manner, I really thought the great Deep was every Moment going to swallow us up; and having a long dark Night coming on, I expected every succeeding one to ship another Sea, or hear of some other direful Disaster, which would bring on our total Destruction; such as bringing her Head to the Sea from the Difficulty of steering her properly; the Masts, Sails, Rigging, or a hundred other Parts of the Tackle giving way, or the Deck being stove in; but, Thanks to him to whom the Winds and the Seas are obedient, nothing of this kind happen'd; which caused my now bewilderd Imagination to recur to the inimitable descriptive View of his Power in the 107th Psalm; nor did we receive another Sea till Eight in the Morning, which came right Aft, drove in one of the dead Lights in the great Cabbin, shattered the larboard Gallery, and shook the Stern in such a Manner, that it was the Carpenters Opinion,

nion, another such would have drove it quite in, which would have laid us under the Necessity of attempting to bring her to, though in doing of which we should have stood an almost certain Chance of perishing. This (let my Thanks again be offered up to him who alone rules the Ragings of the Sea,) proved the last; yet, as I observed before, neither the Wind nor the Sea abated till the Afternoon, when Part of the Crew were allowed to rest themselves, and I must say, in Honour due to the Captain and Officers, they shewed themselves quite throughout this most difficult Encounter, vigilant, dexterous, and skillful Seamen; and can only farther add, in Relation to the Sea, that if I had not seen it, I could not have believed it possible to have had such an amazing Force; and, surely, the Sound and Horror of its breaking in is, of all others, the most dreadful.

WE had sat up all the last melancholy Night, and were by this time, as you'll easily think, very much inclin'd to sleep, but found all our Bedding below wet, for she had labour'd so much, that the Water had forced itself in almost at every Seam: However, Mr

Peisley was so kind to lend me a pure warm *Turkish Cloak*, lined with Fur, with which he had travelled over Land from *India* two Years before; and, wrap'd in that, I laid myself down on the Deck in the Round-house, and, considering the Force of the Passion that had so lately disturbed my Imagination, had a very refreshing Sleep, tho' I found my Bones pretty sore for it the next Morning. The rest likewise disposed of themselves there in the best Manner they could, and the next Morning (being *Tuesday*) it was fair Weather, when every Body got their Cloaths and Bedding hung out to dry, that we looked as if we had been on a sudden metamorphosed into *Monmouth-street*.

THE Carpenters were now immediately set about refitting the Stern and Galleries, and the Seamen in splicing and repairing such other Parts of the Ship's Furniture as belonged to their Province.

FOR all this, the Sea, to my great Surprise, is not without its Admirers, one of whom, *Mr Hill*, who tho' born to a Fortune of ten or twelve thousand Pounds, independent

dependent of any Body, was not easy till he got a-board a Ship; but, I believe, this gentle Gale^d has cooled his Passion for it so much, that he will hardly go again; and here I cannot forbear observing how differently two of our Boys were affected; one desiring a Prayer-Book to pray for all the Ship's Company, and the other, who belonged to our Table, expressing his Fear, that as the Fire was put out, he could not have any Thing but Cheese and Biscuit for his Supper.

WE were very unfortunate in meeting with this Storm in such a critical Time and Place; for, I believe, the Sun being that Day on the North Tropick, making it with us the Turn or Change of the Monsoon, and being a *Saturday's* Moon, (which Seamen remark always brings bad Weather) influenced the Wind, as much as our being on the Bank did the Sea.

WE hauled to the Northward as soon as possible, in order to get out of the Reach of such a tempestuous Climate; and it continuing a fresh Gale, found ourselves on the 16th in Lat. 30 deg. South, Meridian

Distance from *Cape Leguillas* 14 deg. East ; when the Wind veered to the N. E. and remained in that Quarter till the 24th, with frequent Squalls and Rain, and a large Head-swell, which made the Ship pitch much : We also found a strong southerly Current, so that we got but four Degrees to the Northward in eight Days. We stood sometimes on one Tack, and then on the other ; but was so circumstanced as made the Continuance of this foul Wind very uneasy to us ; for, to go to the South or West was out of our Way, and we durst not stand far to the Eastward, lest we should run without the Island of *Madagascar*.

On the 17th, after reeving the Top-sails, one of our People, in order to get down first, jumped from the Top with Design to catch hold of the Back-stay ; but, missing it, fell upon the Quarter-deck ; by which Accident he broke his Thigh and fractured his Skull, which render'd him speechless, and he died in eight Hours. — The next Day we committed his Body to the Deep, the Purser performing the Service.

ON the 24th, when the Wind came about to the Southward, and we were going to crowd away, we had the Vexation to find the Main-topmast sprung ; however, they made such Dispatch to get it down and to rig another, that in twelve Hours a new one was fixed ; and, expecting to make the Island of *Madagascar* in two or three Days, got the Cables bent, and the Anchors over the Side to be in readiness to let go in case of need.

ON the 25th, in the Afternoon, the Wind being at S. S. E. we kept her close to it, in order to make *St Augustin's Bay*, which lies directly under the South Tropic. At Night we shorten'd Sail, and kept the Lead going, but had no Ground 70 Fathom : The next Day at Noon, found ourselves to the Northward of that Port, making by Observation 23 deg. 2 min. however, continued keeping close to the Wind, going 5 Knots till Sun-set ; but not seeing Land, laid her to with her Head to the S. W. judging ourselves but thirteen Leagues from *Madagascar*, and sounded every Hour, but had no Ground with 80 Fathom of Line.

At Six the next Morning (*June 27.*) made Sail, the Wind being at S.E. and fair pleasant Weather; and at Eight saw the Land, or rather the Trees on it; for it was so very low, that we could not see that till some time after; It then bore E. N. E. which was right a-head; but we immediately bore away N. and N. by E. going then six Knots. At Eleven we steered N. E. by N. and at Twelve N. E. At half past Ten it bore from S. S. E. to S. E. by E. distant ten or eleven Miles; and at Noon it bore South, distant six Leagues. We made then by Observation 22 deg. 10 min. South, Meridian Distance from *Cape Leguillas* 29 deg. 30 min. East.

We did not doubt, at first making this Land, but that it was *Madagascar*; but finding about Eleven, that we did not see it rise farther a-head, and there being no deep Bays about that Part of the Island, we began to mistrust it was the *Bassas de India*, lying two Degrees West of it; in which we were confirmed at Noon by our Observation and Course. It is extremely well laid down in the Chart, as to its Latitude, but not properly

perly described, as from it we imagined the *Bassas de India* to be nothing but a Rock; whereas it is a pretty large Island, extending from North to South, at least six or eight Miles. It is very low next the Sea, and but a very little Rising any where, has a large Range of Trees along the Coast; and, by what we could perceive with our Glasses, the Ground had a tolerable Verdure; but a very great Surff, almost all round it, and many Breakers off it, make it extremely dangerous for a Ship to fall in with it in the Night; so that we rejoiced that we had laid her to so early as Sun-set the Night before, with her Head off Shore; for we were then so near, that had the Horison been clear, its probable the Man from the Mast-head might have discerned it. But there was one Circumstance gave us great Concern, when we found it to be the *Bassas de India*, which was, our bearing away from it immediately; for about Ten, several of the Crew said they saw a Smoke, which, as we took the Land for *Madagascar*, did not regard; but at Noon, when we were too far to Leeward to beat up for some Days, consider'd, if there really was a Smoke, it must have been a Signal made

us by some People in Distress, who had had the Misfortune to be wrecked on it, as was the *Suffex*, one of the Company's Ships, a few Years ago, since there is no Account of its being inhabited ; therefore very possibly might have found them to belong to the *Northampton* or *Prince of Orange*, who had run on it in their Way to *Madagascar* ; or, more likely, the *Dolphin*, which is a missing Ship this Year, and bound to *Bombay*, the People of whom, if they had not an Opportunity of saving a Boat to cross over to that Island, must remain there without Relief ; which all Ships, from its being so hazardous a Place to fall in with, take great Pains to avoid, and which we should have done, if the strong southerly Currents we met with a Week before, had not likewise set us to the Westward. That Evening found by an Amplitude the Variation to be 23 deg. 55 min. West.

On the 28th and 29th steered N. E. by E. and had moderate S. W. Winds, with charming fair Weather, and remarkably smooth Water (occasioned from our being in so narrow a Passage) till we saw the Island *Joanna*, one of the four which lies
between

between the N.W. side of *Madagascar* and the Continent of *Africa*, but found a Current all along setting to the N.W.

IN this Interval the Boats were caulk'd, and other Preparations made for going into Port, where by this time we ardently wished to be.

THE 3d of *July* at Night, we laid to, being near the Latitude of the Islands, and by Ten the next Morning saw *Mobilla* bearing North, distant seven or eight Leagues, having a fine fair Wind and moderate Weather, stood in with the Land all Night. At Eight next Morning (*July* 5.) anchor'd in the Bay in fourteen Fathom Water, about half a Mile off Shore, being equally distant from the Town and the Watering-place. We could not help admiring the odd romantic Look of this Place, being very mountainous next the Sea, but yet entirely covered with Trees and Verdure.

FOUND only a small *Moorish* Ship from *Surat* here, who had been four Months to take in a Cargo of *Cowries*; therefore,
flatter'd

flatter'd ourselves we were a-head of the other Ships.

By the time we came to an Anchor, the Prince (the King being up in the Country) sent off to welcome us, telling us, in the usual Manner, that the *Johanna* Men esteemed the *English* as their Brothers, and that he, the King, would wait upon the Captain in the Afternoon; soon after, we had the Ship as full of Black People as ever she could hold, who came off in Canoes, with Oranges, Limes, &c. Fruit, which we eagerly devoured, giving them in Exchange small Knives, Tobacco, Bags (or Clouties, as they call them,) or some such Trifles, and was highly diverted with their broken *English*, they not knowing for six Words together, how to explain themselves without repeating the Verb *have*; as for Instance, when they wanted something in exchange for a Parcel of Oranges, they would say, *you have for Orange, I have want for Clouty*, and so on.

AFTER Dinner, the *Noquedah* (or Master) of the *Moorish* Vessel, and Supra-Cargoes, came on board to pay their Compliments

to the Captain, bringing with them (as is usual with all the Eastern People) a Present of a Goat and some Fruit, the Value of which we returned four-fold. From them we heard the *Bombay* News, to the time they left the Coast ; when I had the Satisfaction to hear all my Friends were well, but that Mr *Marsh* was dead, and Mr *Derrill* sent up Chief of *Surat* in his room.

As soon as they were gone, Mess. *Peisley*, *Mann*, *Stuart*, *Geekie*, and myself, being vastly impatient to get on Shore, went to the Town to see the Prince and Governor.—Here I found a Parcel of little Stone-Houses, about ten times as bad as those at *Brentford*, tho' the principal ones on the Island. When we got to the Prince's, he was sitting in a miserable little Virando or Piazza ; and, after Compliments had passed, he enquired after the Captains and other his Acquaintance who had been there, was very glad to hear of the Peace, as the Ships might come in more constant, and was vastly inquisitive, whether We or the *French* made the first Overtures. He treated us with Dates, Sugarcandy, and Coccoanuts ; and after sitting half an Hour, we went to
the

the Governors, where we met with the same Entertainment. I could not help observing the Poverty of these two great Men, and their Fondness of our *European* Trifles, for they had got Bottles, earthen Cups, &c. hung up against the Wall by way of Ornament, and seemed to set as high a Value upon them as we should on one of *Raphael's* Pictures. From thence we walked a little way into the Country, which we found to be vastly pleasant and fertile; and return'd on board about Supper-time.

THE next Morning we went on Shore again, and were employ'd all Day, having carried Victuals for that Purpose, in pitching a Tent near the Watering-place, where we might always resort in the Day-time, and got the Prince to order a Cow to be brought every Afternoon, that we might regale ourselves with a Syllibub. The Spot we chose was shaded by a Number of Cocoa-nut Trees; we had one Way a fine Rivulet running by us, and a View of the Sea and Ship; and the other, a Prospect of the Country.

THE 7th the Captain and all our Messmates dined at the Tent, when some Wagers of Liquors were paid relating to the time of our Arrival here, though the principal One of three Dozen of Claret was carried away with the starboard Gallery in the Gale of Wind off the Cape. But in the Evening, when we wanted to go on Board, we learnt the Long-boat and Pinnace were sent a Wooding, and the Surff rose so high, that only the Captain, Doctor, and Purser, cared to venture in the Jolly-boat, who promised to send the Pinnace as soon as she returned to the Ship; but not arriving by nine or ten o'Clock, I began to wish I had gone off with them, as we were likely to be obliged to spend the Night there, it being an ugly Way to the Town along the Beach, over monstrous large Stones; and, even there, could not tell whether we could get into a House; therefore we made a great Fire, drank a few Bottles of Wine that were left, and kept moving about to prevent catching cold; but by Twelve the Wind had risen very high, and it began to pour down Rain in such a manner as I never saw in my Life before, without the least Intermission.

mission till Sun-rise. This put out our Fire, Candle we had none, and the Tent, which was only a studding Sail raised upon two Pair of Shears, I expected to be every Minute blown down; it also letting in the Rain like a Sieve; so that we were all presently wet to the Skin, and the Ground overflowed Ankle-deep.—Thus, I may safely say, I never passed a more uncomfortable Night (excepting that of the 11th of *June*) thinking every Minute an Hour, till, to our great Joy, the Pinnacle came about five o'Clock, and carried us on board, she being only a little before arrived at the Ship.—After shifting I went immediately to Bed, expecting nothing less than to rise with a dreadful Cold; however, was lucky enough not to be in the least out of Order, having falling into a profuse Sweat: But what made it still worse, the Captain was the next Day to make a Treat on board for the King and all the Royal Family; and our Curiosity being great, we were obliged to get up at Ten, in order to receive his Majesty and Royal Retinue.

ABOUT Noon he came on board, making a most hideous Noise with his Tom-Toms,

Toms, or Drums, which, according to ancient Custom of the *East*, are moved by Pulsation of the Hands, attended by the Prince, Duke, Governors of the several Towns, &c. to the Number of 10 or 12, on which we hoisted our Colours, and saluted him with five Guns; when being conducted into the Round-house, he asked how we had left his Brother, King *George*, and all the Royal Family, and Particulars of the *European* News, expressed great Satisfaction on hearing of the Peace, as it would again bring our Ships there every Year, and told the Captain his Island should be at his Command in whatever he might want for the Ship's Use. Then Dinner being served (when great Plenty was provided) they all eat very hearty, or, I may more properly say, very greedily, but would not drink any thing stronger than Sherbet; and Dinner was no sooner over than his Majesty got up to Prayers, being all very strict *Mahometans*. Accordingly he kneeled just by us, bowed his Head down to the Deck several times, and mutter'd something to himself for five or six Minutes; but I am very much afraid, that this proceeded as much out of Ostentation as sincere De-

votion, having observed that he often looked aside to see if we took any Notice, and thereupon seemed to be more earnest. In the Afternoon they saw some Goods for Sale, but bought little except Iron, which they are in great Want of. The Captain made them a Present of some odd Things they fancied, and about Sun-set they went ashore in the Pinnace, entertain'd with the same Musick which they brought a-board, and we saluted them as before, being heartily glad we had got over such a troublesome Day. — From my mentioning the Manner of their Living on Shore, you will judge this is mere Mock-majesty; but was surpris'd to find they were as mean as poor, not being above begging even a Pewter-dish or Plate; however, they dress'd themselves out tolerably, and, in other respects, behaved so. — His present Majesty is a middle-aged Man, and has a very good Person; but, contrary to the Custom in these absolute Monarchies, has very little Power over his Subjects; so that, with great Propriety it may be said, *here is no King in Israel.*

DURING the rest of our Time here, we went ashore as much as we could; but
however,

however, always took care to secure a Boat to come off, and one day got a considerable way up into the Country a-shooting, at which was highly delighted, not only from the Sport we had, but the Prospect of a vastly fertile, pleasant Island; we had provided ourselves with Cheese, Biscuit, Punch, &c. so advanced at least six Miles Inland, and found it very hilly; yet, notwithstanding, the Soil so very rich, that it was every where crowded with Plenty; such as Pine-Apples, Pomegranates, Bananas, Oranges, Limes, Coconuts, Callavances, &c. which all grew wild. The Valleys were full of Fowl, as Guinea-hens, Doves, and other Birds, of which we killed several, as we ranged about without Fear of meeting with any wild Beasts or Snakes, and saw one very great Curiosity of its kind, being a large Cascade, which is reported to be a Mile perpendicular; and, indeed, I believe no Place abounds more with pretty Streams and Rivulets, not being able scarcely to go half a Mile without crossing one.

THIS Island, as I observed, lies about Midway between the North End of *Madagascar*, and the Continent of *Africa*, being

in Sight of three more, *Mobilla, Mayotta,* and *Comero*, and in the Latitude of 12 deg. South ; the Compass of it is about 50 Miles, and contains 50,000 Souls, Half of whom, it is computed, are *Madagascar* Slaves. They are a very courteous, good-natured People, but vastly indolent, or the Soil and Climate is so fertile, they might produce any Thing, being possessed of two Articles alone, which in a few Years, with little Industry, would yield them immense Sums. I mean, the great Number of Cotton-trees, and Spiders that spin a Web of Silk almost as strong as sewing Silk ; and there is great reason to think they have Mines, from the brown sparkling Sand which we saw washed down from the Hills by the Springs and Torrents ; therefore, the only Trade they deal in is Cowries (or Blackamoor's Teeth, as we call them in *England*,) the King's sole Property, which the Sea throws up in great Abundance : They exchanged them with the Captain for his Iron, which they took at three Dollars a Bar, and reckoned them at about a *Spanish* Dollar a Bushel.— They go for Money at *Bengall*, and yield a great Profit.

THERE

THERE was one constant Fair on board the Ship all the while, with Poultry, Goats, Monkeys, Greens, Fish, and Fruit, which they barter'd with us for Bottles, two-penny Knives, Tobacco, Rags, and such like Trifles, the Prince deciding the Bargains; so that I am certain I have seen a Pine-apple, which would cost a Guinea in *Covent-Garden* Market, bought for a Bottle, and in proportion for the rest; therefore we quite loaded the Ship, and having compleated our Quantity of Wood and Water, and likewise got 25 fine Bullocks (about the Size of *Scotch* Cattle) on board, we left the Place early on *Friday* the 14th, vastly pleased with it, having feasted ourselves eight Days with the Profusion that abounds of delicious Fruits and Provisions, which are produced, as already said, without the least Industry of the Inhabitants; and, indeed, we could only make one Objection, which is the Inconveniency of getting a-shore, being obliged to go over a Bar which makes a great Surff run, and very seldom escaped without wet Shoes and Stockings.

NEITHER of the other Ships were arriv-
ed; but we had not got above three Lea-
gues out of the Bay before we perceived a
large Ship coming in from the Southward;
therefore made no doubt it was one of them,
and greatly rejoiced we had got so much
the Start. Accordingly Capt. *Braund* made
the Signal concerted between them, for
meeting after Separation, but to our great
Surprize she did not answer it, or even hoist
her Ensign. This perplex'd us very much,
as it was in time of Peace, to guess who she
was, or what could be her View in it;
however, we resolv'd to lose no time, and
so did not bear down to her. At Noon
were got ten Leagues from the Land, hav-
ing a fine Gale at S.W. allowed ourselves
25 Days to *Bombay*; yet it continuing re-
markably steady in that Quarter without e-
ven one Squall or any Rain, having with
it pleasant hazy Weather, we never once
run less than 135 Miles in a Day till we
got there, sometimes 200, and don't ever
remember such agreeable sailing as we found
in this Monsoon, being no ways inferior
to the most regular Trade. — After we had
crossed the Line, and got pretty well over
to

to *Cape Bassas* on the Coast of *Ethiopia*, had a Current setting sixty and seventy Miles a-day in our favour ; but a few Days after, in standing to the Eastward, it run as strong against us.

ABOUT this Time near twenty of our People fell sick with violent Fevers, of whom we lost three. — 'Tis remarkable, that no Ship ever left *Joanna* without suffering in this manner a little after, and some ~~so severely~~, that it has made them mistrust the Inhabitants playing some Tricks; however, we gave them no Reason, and I can hardly think they would do it out of Wantonness ; therefore I am of Opinion it proceeds from their sudden Change of Dyet from Salt Provision to the fine fresh Beef, which they always have from their Arrival (the best Bullocks being sold for four Dollars) which over-enriches their Blood, and produces that Distemper, and we were the more confirmed in this as no one belonging to the Captain's Table complained in the least.

OUR Gale continuing beyond all Expectation in the Manner before related, we

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crowded all the Sail we could in order to get into Port before the Change of the Moon on the 2d of *August*, as we should otherwise be forced to bring to off the Coast, it being often attended with bad Weather, on which Account *European* Captains don't care to venture near the Land at that Time.

On the 27th we were got so far as 16 deg. North, in which Latitude we passed the Sun, and found it extremely hot. Two Days after we reached the Latitude of the Island, being 19 deg. North, and immediately bore away to the Eastward, when on the 31st, in the Morning, got Sounding in 60 Fathom, seeing, as is usual, a great many Water-snakes.

In this Run we were a-head of our Reconings, judging the Currents we met with had set us to the Eastward. — We shoaled the Water gradually, and now every one prepared for going on Shore. — On *Tuesday* the 1st of *August*, about Noon, we had a happy Sight of the Land, making, as we intended, the Island of *Kenery*, lying a small Distance to the Southward, and having a gentle

Gentle Gale and fair Weather, we stood in, and got the Length of the Reef near the Harbour of *Bombay* by Sun-set, where we anchor'd in eight Fathom Water, and made a Signal for the Master Attendant to come off and pilot us in; which we had no sooner done, than we observed a Boat, in which he had put off as soon as they perceived us, from the look-out Place, being the same time we saw the Land.

ON his Arrival we made the Signal concerted on Shore to know whether it was an *European Ship*, which very much surprized them. We had a thousand Questions to ask him concerning our Friends, and he as many with regard to News; therefore his Boat was immediately dispatched with Letters, but as it was grown dark, he did not care to weigh Anchor, which obliged us to remain there till Eleven the next Day, the Tide of Ebb having made at Day-break; after that, we stood in for the Road, and at Two in the Afternoon anchored, to our great Joy, saluting the Fort with nine Guns, which were returned. We immediately went on shore, when the Captain was so complaisant to salute us with the same
Number

Number.—And being now arrived, directly waited on the Governor at the Fort ; when no Ship having got in before us, we acquainted his Honour of the Conclusion of the Peace ; and, after sitting Half an Hour, separated every one to his Friends.

THUS we made a very extraordinary quick Passage, being little better than four Months from *England* ; and were no less fortunate in our Commander and Shipmates, having lived in perfect Harmony all the while ; so that if it should ever prove my Fortune to return, I think myself extremely happy in meeting with as agreeable ones, and as good a Ship.

WE had the Pleasure of finding the Captain rewarded in a very advantageous Sale of his Goods, as well as being ordered on a Voyage to the Gulph of *Persia* presently after, fully proving the Old Proverb, *That a bad Beginning sometimes makes a good Ending* ; as we afterwards found the four Days we lost by Accident in setting out, were the almost certain means of our Success.

THE *Stafford*, Capt. *Baker*, left the *Downs* six Days after us, and arrived the 27th of *September*, having met with a very light, indifferent S.E. Trade Wind, and touched at *Joanna* only eight Days: He informed us the Ship we saw going in there, was a *Portuguese*, but knew nothing of the *Warren* or *Salisbury*; which, as the Season was so far advanced, made us afraid some Accident had befallen them, till at length (on the 17th of *October*) the latter came in, advising us, that for four Days after their leaving the *Downs* they had such constant hard Gales and dirty Weather in the Channel, as obliged them, though the Wind was fair, to lay the Ship to, and lost Sight of their Consort the first Night. They put into *Falmouth* on the 29th of *March*, (when we took our Departure from the *Start*,) and stay'd there three Days to stop a Leak. Capt. *Burrough's* complained heavily of the S.E. Trade Wind, having hardly found any, so that it was the 2d of *August*, (the Day of our Arrival) before he made *Madagascar*, and got into *St. Augustin's Bay* on the 5th, where he remained a Fortnight.

IN regard to the *Warren*, he was of Opinion, she unhappily suffer'd in the Channel, as she was so shamefully deep loaded ; but I am in hopes she may have put into *Plymouth, Torbay*, or some other Port ; which as he was so little a while at *Falmouth*, he could not possible hear of : However, in that case, they are very unfortunate, as this being the 6th of *December*, they must be gone the outward Passage ; so that I don't expect they will arrive till the Middle of *March*, and perhaps be drove to some Streights for Provisions, there being four young Ladies, and six Gentlemen, Passenger on board.

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