

manners. Their minds wanted that prompt fertility in the invention of the expedients suitable to every exigency in the intercourse with savages, which Britons have ever eminently displayed in similar expeditions. They had set out with a theoretic fancy, that *passive gentleness* would accomplish every thing ; and, when this failed them, they knew not what to do. Their first misfortunes absolutely unmanned their minds, and reduced them to act ever after with a timid caution, which frustrated many of the best purposes of their voyage. Where La Peyrouse expatiates in general views, and sets himself to reason, and to speculate in his Journal ; what he says, is, for the greater part, of very little value. He discovers much of that conceited dogmatism, for which the French character has long been remarkable. He is far too ready to conclude, that, what he saw not, cannot have been ever seen by others ; that, what his reason cannot, at a first view, approve, must be utterly absurd. A comparative want of boldness, of fortitude, of patience,