

noon our observed latitude was 1 deg. 48 min. S. and at nine in the evening a boat (which we supposed to be a fishing boat) passed us; we hailed her, but received no answer that we could understand. At twelve we came-to in thirteen fathoms, with a clayey bottom, and found the tide passed us at the rate of four miles an hour.

At six the next morning we weighed and made sail; having light breezes, our course E. by S. and E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. varying according to the winding of the passage. We found the heat very troublesome, the thermometer rising as high as $83\frac{1}{2}$ deg. and 84 deg. and two or three of the Discovery's people fell ill of fevers. That part of the straits which is formed by Sumatra is low, and covered with trees to the very edge of the water, the whole forming to appearance an impenetrable wood: the island Banca composes the other side, and is also low near the sea-

Z 3

side,