

1793.
November.

the south has the appearance of an island, but is firmly connected with the main land. To the east the land retires and forms a small inlet, apparently favorable to anchorage; it has a flat rock on which the water broke in its entrance, and has not any other visible danger excepting that of being much exposed to the south and s. e. winds. Not being able to sail into the bay, we stood towards its south point, which lies from the north point s. 30 e. at the distance of 7 miles. Within these limits appeared three small openings in the coast, one already noticed to the eastward of the north point, the other two immediately within the south point; across these a connected chain of breakers seemed to extend, with three high white rocks, which nearly blockaded the passage. Although very solicitous of gaining more intelligence, this was all the information I was able to procure of this place, which required to be minutely surveyed by our boats before the vessel should enter; the state of the weather was ill calculated for such service; it was very dark and gloomy, and the depression of the mercury in the barometer indicated an approaching storm. Our soundings when under 35 fathoms were on a rocky bottom, and considering that any further examination at this time was not important, I steered along the coast to the southward for point de los Reys, so named by the Spaniards, which at noon bore by compass, s. 22 e. distant about 2 leagues: the latitude by an indifferent observation, $38^{\circ} 7'$. My apprehensions of bad weather were not ill founded; after a few hours calm we were again visited by a s. s. e. gale, attended as before with heavy rain; this soon reduced us to close-reefed topsails, and brought with it a very heavy sea. Soon after midnight the wind suddenly shifted to the westward, the sky became clear, and we again steered for the land; about nine the next morning we passed point de los Reys, which I found to be situated in latitude $38^{\circ} 0'$, longitude $237^{\circ} 24'$. This is one of the most conspicuous promontories southward from cape Flattery, and cannot easily be mistaken; when seen from the north, or south, at the distance of 5 or 6 leagues, it appears insular, owing to its projecting into the sea, and the land behind it being less high than usual near the coast; but the interior country preserved a more lofty appearance, although these mountains extended in a direction further from

Wednes. 14.