

C H A P. XII.

Observations on Queen Charlotte's Islands—Meet two vessels, called the Prince of Wales, and the Princess Royal, from London—Persons, manners, and customs of the inhabitants—Dress—Manufactures.

HAVING quitted the islands, a few observations on them and their inhabitants may not be thought improper. From the number of inlets we met with, in coasting along the shore, and from our seeing the same inhabitants on the opposite side of the coast, it is more than probable that this is not one continued land, but forms a group of islands. In consequence of which they were distinguished by the name of Queen Charlotte's Islands. They are situated from 51 deg. 42 min. to 54 deg. 24 min. north latitude; and from 130 deg. to 133 deg. 30 min. west longitude,

The great quantity of furs we met with here, renders it probable that these people have no intercourse with any civilized nation; and we have reason to flatter ourselves with having the honour of adding these islands to the geography of this country. We saw but few ornaments among the inhabitants, and their knives were probably