

upon it. Some of our lower standing rigging being much decayed, the Commodore embraced the opportunity, while the foremast was repairing, of ordering a new set of main rigging to be fitted, and the fore-rigging to be improved.

From our putting into the Sound, till the 7th of April, the weather had been remarkably fine; but, in the morning of the 8th, the wind blew fresh at south-east, accompanied with hazy weather and rain, it increased in the afternoon, and in the evening it blew extremely hard. It came in heavy squalls, right into the cove from over the high land on the opposite shore; and though the ships were well moored, they were in a dangerous situation.

The natives were not discouraged, by this bad weather from making us daily visits; and, in our situation, such visits were very acceptable to us. They frequently brought us a supply of fish, when we were unable to catch any with a hook and line, and we had not a convenient place to draw a net. The fish they brought us were small cod, and a small kind of bream, or sardine. On the 11th the main rigging was fixed and got over head notwithstanding the rainy weather; and the next day we took down the mizen-mast, the head of which was so rotten, that it dropped off in the slings.

We received a visit in the evening from a tribe of natives whom we had not seen before, and who, in general, made a better appearance than our old friends. The Commodore conducted them into the cabin, but there was not an object that excited their attention; all our novelties were looked on with indifference, except by a very few, who shewed a certain degree of curiosity. The next day a party of our men went into the woods, and cut down a tree, of which a mizen-mast was to be made. The day after, it was conveyed to the place where the carpenters were at work upon the foremast. The wind in the evening veered to the south east, and blew a very hard gale, attended with rain till eight o'clock the next morning; at which time it abated and veered to the west.

The foremast being now finished, we hauled it along side; but on account of the bad weather, could not get it in till the afternoon. We were expeditious in rigging it, while the carpenters were employed on the mizen-mast on shore. On the 16th, when they had made considerable progress in it, they discovered that the tree on which they were at work was wounded; owing, it was imagined, to some accident in cutting it down. It therefore became necessary to procure another tree out of the woods, on which occasion all hands were employed above half a day.

During these operations, many of the natives were about the ships, gazing with an expressive surprise, which, from their general inattention, we did not expect. A party of strangers, in seven or eight canoes, came into the cove on the 18th, and after looking at us for some time, retired. We apprehended that our old friends, who at this time, were more numerous