

shore in five fathoms water ; the outer anchor was in 13 fathoms soft muddy bottom. In this situation the S. E. and N. W. points of the passage into this port, in a line, bore by compass S. 80 W. distant about half a mile. The flag staff at the Presidio bore S. 42 E.

The little we had seen of port St. Francisco enabled us to decide that it was very extensive in two directions ; one spacious branch took its course east and southward to a great distance from the station we had quitted in the morning, the other apparently of equal magnitude led to the northward. In this were several islands. Although I had been informed by Sen^r Quadra that the boundaries of this inlet had been defined, yet I was anxious to be more particularly acquainted with its extent, having since been given to understand that Sen^r Quadra's information was by no means correct.

Near the branch leading to the east and south-eastward abovementioned, is situated the mission of Santa Clara. These gentlemen informed me, that this branch had been thoroughly examined, but that the branch leading to the north never had. I was, however, obliged to remain contented under the uncertainty of such contradictory information ; for the port having been established by Spain, I did not consider it prudent to prosecute its examination without sufficient authority