

less than four hundred dollars, and consequently not obliged to undergo more labour than was necessary to keep him in health.

Our thoughts were now employed on returning to our native shore; and having sufficiently recruited our stores, on Saturday the 4th of May, we weighed, and sailed out of the road in company with the Portland man-of-war, and his convoy, consisting of twelve sail of East Indiamen. With this fleet we continued our course for England until Friday the 10th, when perceiving they out-sailed us, and consequently might make their port before us, Capt. Cook, for this reason, made the signal to speak with the Portland, upon which Capt. Elliot came on board the Endeavour; to whom a letter for the admiralty was delivered, with a box, containing the common log books of the ship, and the journals of some of the officers. We did not lose sight of the fleet till Thursday the 23d, when they parted from us; and about one o'clock in the afternoon, we lost our first lieutenant, Mr. Hicks, an active, skilful, judicious, and useful officer. He died of a consumption, of which lingering disorder he discovered some symptoms when he left England; so that it may be truly said, that he was dying the whole voyage; and his decline was very gradual till we arrived at Batavia, from whence to the time of his dissolution, the slow consuming disease gained strength daily. The whole ship's company attended the funeral rites, and in the evening we committed his body to the sea with the usual ceremonies. The next day the captain appointed Mr. Charles Clerk, a young man, to act in the room of Mr. Hicks.

We now every day drew nearer our desired haven; but what must be the condition of our once good ship, the Endeavour, may easily be imagined, from a slight recollection of the hardships she had surmounted, and the dangers she had providentially escaped. At this time our rigging and sails were so weather-beaten, that