

## LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

## NARRATIVE

## OF A MARINER LEFT ON AN ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC.

Early in the year 1823, the subject of this narrative was, at the age of seven years, by one of the freaks of fortune, placed on board a ship employed in the South Sea fishery. The ship being in the latitude of the Gallapagos, a group of islands situated about two hundred miles west of Peru, she directed her course towards them for the purpose of obtaining wood and water; here they found an American brig which had arrived there, a day or two previous, with the same intention. They came to an anchor fronting a sandy beach of no very great extent, with high hills and lofty woods terminating the prospect; the inland parts at a little distance seemed impracticable from the great thickness of the forests. At 2, P.M., a number of hands were dispatched on shore in the long boat; but not meeting with so desirable a place for watering as they expected, some of the men entered the woods in search of "Quick freshes," while others proceeded along shore to find one less objectionable. Of the former party was young Lord, and whether he was led on by destiny, wildness, or want of caution, it so happened that he got separated from the rest, and entered quite unconsciously into the thickest part of the country. Having wandered on in this wild labyrinth for nearly two hours, and not finding any water, nor being able to knock down any of the birds which he occasionally disturbed, and chased from among the wild furze & thickets, he began to think of returning, not apprehending any more difficulty of egress than he had met with on entering. Being perfectly satisfied in his own mind that he was proceeding in the direction for the ship, he steadfastly pursued the path he had chosen; evening, however, began to wrap the forest in a deeper gloom, and only just sufficient light remained to show him that he had arrived at a place clothed with some very fine trees, beyond

which the woods grew so thick as to render them completely impassable. The fact now first flashed upon him, that he had proceeded some miles into the interior. Our youth was a character of much pleasantry and good humour, blended with a determined spirit, and resolution greatly superior to most boys of his age; to those qualities, in after years, may be attributed his saving the life of a boy who fell overboard from one of his Majesty's ships at Plymouth, and the promptitude and activity he displayed on another occasion, when a sailor fell from the fore-yard into the sea, which procured for him the high commendation of his superior officers with a certificate of the circumstance from his gallant commander. But to resume—the certainty of having lost himself did not appear to him to be a discovery of great importance, and with a buoyancy of spirit, he determined to pass the night in the woods, not doubting that on the morrow he should readily find his way back to the vessel.— In this hope, after having fortified himself with a good drink of water, from a spring just at hand, he ascended one of the trees; and here, notwithstanding the loud screaming of the night bird, and the continued whoopings of innumerable owls, 'making night hideous,' worn out by fatigue and watching, he slept till morning.

It may be imagined that at the first glimpse of daybreak, he was not a little anxious to get out of the wood, an anxiety increased by his experiencing that uneasy sensation which too long a fast is apt to produce. For some hours he wandered about in the intricacies of this wild uninhabited spot, supported in the hope, as he advanced, that his toils were near the termination. Often did he listen in breathless attention to catch the sound of any signal gun to guide his footsteps, and often did he shout in expectation of being heard by those who might have been dispatched in search of him. He ascended at intervals any high tree that he met within his progress, but found his view constantly intercepted by forests and elevated hills wooded to their summits. Hunger now