

his commands in broken English to the boatmen, added in no small degree, to the exhilaration of the party,

To reach Hog Island, it was necessary to pass by the tannery and cottage already described, which, latter, it will be remembered, had been the scene of a singular adventure to our hero, and his servant on the night of their reconnoitring the coast, in obedience to the order of the Commodore. By the extraordinary and almost romantic incidents of that night, the imagination of Gerald had been deeply impressed, and on retiring to his rude couch within the battery he had fully made up his mind to explore further into the mysterious affair, with as little delay as possible after the expected fall of the American fortress. In the hurry, confusion, and excitement, of that event however, his original intention was forgotten; or, rather so far delayed, that it was not until the third or fourth day of his establishment in the town, that it occurred to him to institute inquiry. He had accordingly repaired thither, but finding the house carefully shut up, and totally uninhabited, had contented himself with questioning the tanner and his family, in regard to its late inmates, reserving to a future opportunity the attempt to make himself personally acquainted with all that it contained. From this man he learnt, that, the house had once been the property of an aged Canadian, at whose death (supposed to have been occasioned by violence,) it had passed into the hands of an American, who led a roving and adventurous life, being frequently away for months together, and then returning with a cargo, but never continuing for more than a few days. Latterly it had been wholly deserted by its owner, the consequence of which it had been taken possession of by the officers of the Commodore's fleet, and was now used as a storehouse for the quarters by the officers of the fleet. As the house was in this part of the town, for the purpose of preventing a check upon the industry of the tanner, and the tannery, there was every appearance of secrecy, and in consequence it did Gerald find wherewith to elucidate what he himself had witnessed. He described the costume, and questioned