

bow ; we found twenty-eight fathoms water, and then twenty-five. We brought the ship to, and anchored in the last depth ; the Commodore ordering the Discovery, who was not far distant, to anchor also.

Some hours after, the fog being a little dispersed, we discovered the imminent danger we had escaped. We were three quarters of a mile from the north-east side of an island ; two elevated rocks were about half a league from us, and from each other. Several breakers also appeared about them ; and yet Providence had safely conducted the ships through in the dark, between those rocks, which we should not have attempted to have done in a clear day, and to so commodious an anchoring place.

Being so near land, Captain Cook ordered a boat ashore, to examine what it produced. When she returned in the afternoon, the officer who commanded her said, he saw some grass, and other small plants, one of which had the appearance of purslain ; but the island produced neither trees nor shrubs.

The wind blew fresh at south, in the night ; but in the morning was more moderate, and the fog, in a great degree, dispersed. We weighed at seven o'clock, and steered between the island near which we had anchored, and a small one not far from it. The breadth of the channel does not exceed a mile, and the wind failed before we could