

omitted that could tend to facilitate the enterprize, two ships were provided; the Resolution, under the command of Captain Cook; the other, the Adventure, commanded by Captain Furneaux. Both of them sailed from Deptford on the 9th of April, 1772, and arrived at the Cape of Good Hope on the 30th of Oct. They departed from thence on the 22d of November, and from that time, until the 17th of January, 1773, continued endeavouring to discover the continent, when they were obliged to relinquish the design. They then proceeded into the South Seas, and made many other discoveries, and returned to England on the 14th of July: having, during three years and eighteen days, lost but one man by sickness; although he had navigated throughout all the climates from fifty-two degrees north, to seventy-one degrees south, with a company of an hundred and eighteen men.

The want of success which attended Captain Cook's attempt to discover a Southern Continent, did not discourage another plan being resolved on, which had been recommended some time before. This was no other than the finding out a North-west passage, which the fancy of some chimerical projectors had conceived to be a practicable scheme. His intrepid spirit, and inquisitive mind, induced him again to offer his services, and they were accepted without hesitation. He prepared for his departure with the utmost alacrity, and sailed in the month of July, 1776.

A few months after his departure from England, notwithstanding he was then absent, the Royal Society voted him Sir Godfrey Copley's gold medal, as a reward for the account which he had transmitted to that Body, of the method taken to preserve the health of the crew of his ships.

Captain Cook was a married man, and left several children behind him. On each of these His Majesty has settled a pension of 25l. per annum, and 200l. per annum on his widow.

The particulars of this last voyage, together with an account of his death, will be found amply described in the following pages.