

went on shore, accompanied by Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander, in order to search for a watering place, and discourse with the Indians. These gentlemen had not proceeded above one hundred yards before the captain, and two of the Indians that had seated themselves, rose up, and threw away the small sticks which they held in their hands, as a token of amity. They afterwards returned to their companions, who had remained at some distance behind them and made signs to their guests to advance, whom they received in a friendly though uncouth manner. In return for their civility, some ribbands and beads were distributed among them. Thus a sort of mutual confidence was established, and the rest of the English joined the party, the Indians conversing with them in their way, in an amicable manner. Capt. Cook and his friends took three of them to the ship, dressed them in jackets, and gave them bread and other provisions, part of which they carried on shore with them; but they refused to drink rum or brandy, making signs that it burned their throats, as their proper drink was water. One of these people made several long and loud speeches, but no part of them was intelligible to any of us. Another stole the covering of a globe, which he concealed under his garment that was made of skin. After having remained on board about two hours, they returned on shore, Mr. Banks accompanying them. He conducted them to their companions, who seemed no way curious to know what their friends had seen, and the latter were as little disposed to relate as the former were to enquire. None of these people exceeded five feet ten inches in height, but their bodies appeared large and robust, though their limbs were small. They had broad flat faces, high cheeks, noses inclining to flatness, wide nostrils, small black eyes, large mouths, small, but indifferently teeth, and straight black hair, falling down over their ears and foreheads, the latter being generally smeared with brown and red paints, and like all the original natives of America, they were beardless. Their garments were the skins of seals and guanicoes, which they wrapped round their shoulders. The men likewise wore on their heads, a bunch of yarn which fell over their foreheads, and was tied behind with the sinews or tendons of some animals. Many of both sexes were painted on different parts of their bodies with red, white, and brown colours, and had also three or four perpendicular lines pricked across their cheeks, and noses. The women had a small string tied round each ankle, and each wore a flap of skin fastened round the middle. They carried their children upon their backs, and were generally employed in domestic labour and drudgery.

Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander, attended by their servants, set out from the ship on the 16th, with a design of going into the country as far as they could that day, and returning in the evening. Having entered a wood, they ascended a hill through a pathless wilderness till the afternoon. After they had reached what they took for a plain, they were greatly disappointed to find it a swamp, covered with birch, the bushes interwoven and so inflexible that they could not be divided: however, as they were not above three feet high, they stepped over them, but were up to the ankles in boggy ground. The morning had been very fine, but now the weather became cold and disagreeable; the blasts of wind were very piercing, and the snow fell thick; nevertheless they pursued their route in hope of finding a better road. Before they had got over this swamp, an accident happened that greatly disconcerted them: Mr. Buchan, one of the draughtsmen, whom Mr. Banks had taken with him, fell into a fit. It was absolutely necessary to stop and kindle a fire, and such as were most fatigued remained to assist him; but Mr. Banks, Dr. Solander, and Mr. Monkhouse proceeded, and attained the spot they had in view, where they found a great variety of plants that gratified their curiosity and repaid their toil. On returning to the company amidst the snow which now fell in great abundance, they found Mr. Buchan much recovered. They had previously sent Mr. Monkhouse

and Mr. Green back to him and those that remained with him, in order to bring them to a hill which was conjectured to lie in a better track for returning to the wood, and which was accordingly fixed on as a place of rendezvous. They resolved from this hill to pass through the swamp, which this way did not appear to be more than half a mile in extent, into the covert of the wood, in which they proposed building a hut, and kindling a fire, to defend themselves from the severity of the weather. Accordingly, the whole party met at the place appointed, about eight in the evening, whilst it was still day-light; and proceeded towards the next valley.

Dr. Solander, having often passed over mountains in cold countries, was sensible, that extreme cold when joined with fatigue, occasions a drowsiness that is not easily resisted; he therefore intreated his friends to keep in motion, however disagreeable it might be to them. His words were—Whoever sits down will sleep, and whoever sleeps will wake no more.—Every one seemed accordingly armed with resolution; but, on a sudden, the cold became so very intense as to threaten the most dreadful effects. It was now very remarkable, that the Doctor himself, who had so forcibly admonished and alarmed his party, was the first that insisted to be suffered to repose. In spite of the most earnest intreaties of his friends, he lay down amidst the snow, and it was with difficulty that they kept him awake. One of the black servants also became weak and faint, and was on the point of following this bad example. Mr. Buchan was therefore detached with a party to make a fire at the first commodious spot they could find. Mr. Banks and four more remained with the doctor and Richmond the black, who with the utmost difficulty were persuaded to come on; and when they had traversed the greatest part of the swamp, they expressed their inability of going any farther. When the black was told that if he remained there he would soon be frozen to death, his reply was, That he was so much exhausted with fatigue, that death would be a relief to him. Doctor Solander said he was not unwilling to go, but that he must first take some sleep, still persisting in acting contrary to the opinion which he himself had delivered to the company. Thus resolved, they both sat down, supported by some bushes, and in a short time fell asleep. Intelligence now came from the advanced party, that a fire was kindled about a quarter of a mile further on the way. Mr. Banks then awakened the doctor who had already almost lost the use of his limbs, though it was but a few minutes since he sat down; nevertheless, he consented to go on, but every measure taken to relieve the black proved ineffectual. He remained motionless, and they were obliged to leave him to the care of a sailor, and the other black servant, who appeared to be the least hurt by the cold, and they were to be relieved as soon as two others were sufficiently warmed, to fill their places. The doctor, with much difficulty, was got to the fire; and as to those who were sent to relieve the companions of Richmond, they returned without having been able to find them. What rendered the mortification still greater was, that a bottle of rum (the whole stock of the party) could not be found, and was judged to have been left with one of the three that were missing.

A fall of snow continuing for near two hours, there now remained no hopes of seeing the three absent persons again. At twelve o'clock, however, a great shouting was heard at a distance, which gave inexpressible satisfaction to every one present. Mr. Banks and four others went forward and met the sailor, who had just strength enough left to walk. He was immediately sent to the fire, and they proceeded to seek for the other two. They found Richmond upon his legs, but incapable of moving them; the other black was lying senseless upon the ground. All endeavours to bring them to the fire were fruitless; nor was it possible to kindle one upon the spot, on account of the snow that had fallen, and was falling; so that there remained no alternative, and they were compelled to leave the two unfortunate negroes to their fate, after they had made them