

We got an easterly breeze the next morning, and, with it, what was very uncommon, clear weather; infomuch, that we clearly saw the volcano, the other mountains, and all the main land under them. It extended from north-east by north, to north-west half west. Between this point and the islands, a large opening appeared, for which we steered, till land was seen beyond it; and, though we did not perceive that this land joined the continent, a passage through the opening was very doubtful; as well as whether the land to the south-west was insular or continental. Unwilling to trust too much to appearances, we therefore steered to the southward; when, having got without all the land in sight, we steered west, the islands lying in that direction.

Three of them, all of a good height, we had passed by eight o'clock; more were now seen to the westward. In the afternoon, the weather became gloomy, and afterwards turned to a mist, the wind blowing fresh at east. We therefore hauled the wind to the southward till day-break, and then proceeded on our course to the west.

We derived but little advantage from daylight, the weather being so thick that we could not discover objects at the distance of a hundred yards; but, as the wind was moderate, we ventured to run. About half an hour after four, the sound of breakers alarmed us, on our larboard