

T H E
V O Y A G E S
O F
C A P T A I N C O O K E.

THE rich cargo of the annual ship from Manilla to Acapulco, has ever been the object which private adventurers to the South Seas have had in view ; while, on the other hand, the annual ship from Acapulco to Manilla has been the pursuit of the ships of war. This difference has arisen from the different constitution of the two ships ; for the galleon, when she sets sail from Manilla, being deep laden with a variety of bulky goods, (such as Chinese silks and manufactures, vast quantities of Indian stuffs, callicoes, and chintz, besides the minuter articles of goldsmiths work, embroidery, &c. wrought at Manilla by the Chinese,) she has not the conveniency of mounting her lower tier of guns, but generally carries them in her hold. Her hands too are as few as are consistent with the safe navigation of the ship, that she may be the less encumbered by the stowage of provisions ; so that being but weakly manned, and indifferently provided for defence, she is thereby more exposed to the attacks of small privateers, and more easy