

strong, and such Quantities and Bodies of Ice came down upon us, that we were obliged to steer the Ship all the time, and keep all Hands upon their Guard with Ice-poles to shove off the Ice; notwithstanding which it brought our Anchor home, and taking hold again, one of the Arms of the Anchor was broke off.

The next day, I sent my Lieutenant in the Boat to seek out some securer Place for the Ships, it being impossible to keep a-float where we were. Some *Utki-may* Savages came off to us, but had nothing to trade, I us'd them civilly, made them some Presents, and dismissed them. As soon as I got the Ships secur'd, I employ'd all my Officers and Boats, having myself no little Share in the Labour, in trying the Tides, and discovering the Course and Nature of this Opening, and after repeated Trials for three Weeks successively, I found the Flood constantly to come from the eastward, and that it was a large River we were got into, but so full of Ice, there was no stirring the Ships, with any probability of Safety, while the Ice was driving up and down with the strong Tides. Here I lay not a little impatient to get out; went several times in my Boat towards the Mouth of the River, and from a Hill that over-look'd Part of the *Welcome*, saw that Place full of Ice; so that I found there was no time lost by our being in Security; however, I sent my Lieutenant and Master in the eight-oar'd Boat to look out for a Harbour near the Entrance of the River, but they found none, and it was a small Miracle they got on board again; for they were so jamm'd up with Ice, which driving, the strong Tides would inevitably have stove the Boat to-pieces, and all must have perished, had it not been for an Opening in a large Piece of Ice, into which they got the Boat, and with it drove out of the River's Mouth; but when the Tides slack'd, the Ice open'd