

malades and perfumed pastes. The sugar made here is not only remarkably fine, but has the smell of violets; and the wine of this island will keep better in long voyages and in hot countries, than that of any other place in the known world, on which account great quantities of it are bought up for the use of ships, and exported to the West Indies. Their convents have a venerable appearance, from their age and structure. Some of the nuns belonging to them are handsome, and, at particular hours, have the liberty of conversing with strangers, through a double barred gate. Their chief employment consists in making curious flowers of all sorts, little baskets, and other trinkets, in needlework, which they sell to their visitors, and the money is appropriated to the use of the convents. Notwithstanding the extraordinary fertility of the island, provisions of all kinds are very dear, the inhabitants living chiefly on fruit and roots. There are some hogs and fowls; but they cannot be procured without great difficulty, except by way of exchange for old cloaths, which in whatever condition, or of whatever kind, are eagerly sought after by the poor among the natives. While we continued here, we were supplied with fresh beef, very indifferent of the kind, as their bullocks, either from want of sweet pasture, or from nature, are both lean, and under the common size. On our arrival in the road of Funchiale, we found the Ferrit and Crown sloop lying at anchor, who saluted our Commodore on his hoisting the broad-pendant, the fort also returned our salute with eleven guns; and on the 14th, Commodore Byron waited on the governor, by whom he was received with great politeness; and on the day following the governor returned his visit at the house of the consul. Having taken in our water, wine, and other refreshments for the use of both the ships companies, on the 19th we began to prepare for proceeding on our voyage.

On Friday the 20th, we took leave of the governor by firing eleven guns, which compliment he returned from the citadel; and at three o'clock, A. M. we weighed