

August.

or on the Shoals, or Rocks, either from the Darkness of the Night, the thicknets of the Weather, or a Gale of Wind. The Circumstance of the Buoy Stave found at Marble Island, as mentioned; and the Things found by *Scroggs*, at the same Place; all make it probable, that this very Inlet, or the broken Lands near, was the Place where the Misfortune happened. It was therefore more prudent, not to hazard all, but to defer the proceeding amongst such Lands, to a more seasonable Opportunity, and to pursue at present (what was more suiting with the Time of the Year) the going to Winter Quarters, and preparing for Wintering.

What was observed upon Survey amongst these very broken Lands the next Year; was an Evidence afterwards of the good Judgment with which an Opposition was made. For we were sensible upon such Survey, that had we ventured in with the Lands, agreeable to the Proposal, there was the highest Probability, had the Weather been any otherwise then moderate, we must have perished.

The Winter was not far off! The Ships must go to the South Part of the Bay, to seek a Harbour, if a convenient Harbour was not found in *Port Nelson* River; they would then be obliged to go to *Churchill*, the Ships were to be unrigged, the Stores taken out. Houses built for wintering, and Fuel provided. All which would be a Work of some Time, and if left until the Winter began, would