

grafs for the cattle and sheep; the hay on board being nearly exhausted. On the dawn of the day following, the *birius*, Captain Hunter, with the remainder of the transports under his convoy, appeared in sight, and three hours after brought to, and anchored in the Bay.

Captain Hunter immediately waited on the Commodore; and these gentlemen, with a small party of officers and men, went on shore again towards the South Coast of Botany Bay, the former visits having been made to the North of the Bay.—Here, as in most of the early interviews with the natives, Commodore Phillips usually laid his musquet on the ground, and advancing before it, held out presents. A green bough held aloof, or their lances thrown down, were like signs of amity in them.—It was a practice with the seamen, in these intercourses, to dress up the inhabitants with shreds of cloth, and tags of coloured paper;—and when they surveyed each other, they would burst in loud laughter, and run hollowing to the woods.—The Marines one day formed before them, they appeared to like the sight, but fled at the sound of the drum, and never more would venture near it.

On the convicts being landed, Mr. Phillips assumed his office of Governor, and caused the Commission given him by the King, to exercise such authority, to be read; and also the abridgment of the code of laws by which he was to govern.—By this the settlers were informed, that four courts would occasionally be held, as the nature of the offence required; namely,

A CIVIL COURT,

A CRIMINAL COURT,

A MILITARY COURT,

And an ADMIRALTY COURT.

The settlers were then told, that nothing could draw these laws into exercise, but their own demerits; and as it was then in their power to atone to their country for all the wrongs done at home, no other admonitions than those which their own consciences would dictate: it was hoped, would be necessary to effect their happiness and prosperity in their new country.

But such is the inveteracy of vice, that neither lenient measures, nor severe whipping, operated to prevent theft; rigorous measures were therefore adopted, and after a formal trial in the Criminal Court, two men were hung in one day, and soon after two others suffered in like way.

It is here necessary to observe, that while the Squadron were under way from Botany Bay to Jackson Port, two strange sail appeared, with their hulls just in view; and soon after Governor Phillips had landed in Sydney's Cove, he was waited upon

by a party bearing a French flag.—These ships proved to be two French frigates, which sailed from Europe in August 1785, under the command of *Monf. La Perieux*, on a voyage of discoveries to the South Seas. They were in some distress for stores and provisions, but the Governor could not contribute much to their relief. However, they remained five weeks in Botany Bay, and during that time visits were continually and reciprocally made, as the distance from that place to Sydney's Cove, was but ten miles across the land.

The convicts, during this interval, were employed in cutting wood for fences; and to collect provender for the cattle and sheep, as the soil produced very indifferent pasture, although it was in the middle of the New Hollanders summer. An aversion to labour, however, induced some of the new settlers to project an escape for Europe, on board of the French ships; these efforts were, however, in a measure frustrated; the officers of the French ships would not hearken to any proposals except those made by the fair; for it was discovered two days after *Monf. La Perieux* had sailed, that two women were missing. We must not omit saying, that *Monf. La Perieux* lost two boats crews in a storm, and that he related he had fourteen of his people murdered at Navigator's Island.

The natives killed three of our men in the woods, two of whom were gathering bushes for thatching; but they did not eat them, as their bodies were restored and buried. After this hostility, they became very shy, and did not for some time approach the colony.

Government have come to a resolution to send out all the convicts sentenced for transportation, and all the respites, in the next fleet that is to sail for Botany Bay, in order that his Majesty's gaols in this kingdom may be once quite cleared.

April 5. A post chaise was ordered, at Mr. Coulthard's; the Kings arms, in Worthington, to convey a couple to be married; but the lady was taken in labour, just as the horses were put to. The journey was of course suspended, and she was safely delivered. The child died on Thursday, was buried on Friday, and the lovers were married on Saturday.—“If I do lose thee, (quoth Shakespeare, addressing himself to Time) I do lose the dearest thing I have.” There was, however, no loss of time in the present notable instance of wedding haste.

About the middle of September last, Elizabeth Perkins, wife of Thomas Perkins, labourer, in the parish of Morley, St. Peter, and about two miles from Attleburgh, Norfolk, without any previous ma-

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