

south-east. When moored, the extremities of the entrance of the harbour bore west-north-west a quarter west, and north by west; the opening at the upper end bore south-east by east three quarters east; and we were about two furlongs distant from the nearest part of the shore.

We had no sooner let go our anchors than Captain Gore fired a gun, with a view of giving the inhabitants notice of our arrival, and drawing them towards the shore; but it had no effect. Early the next morning parties were dispatched to cut wood, as Captain Gore's principal motive for touching at this island was to supply the ships with that article. During the afternoon, a sudden gust of wind broke the stream-cable, by which the *Discovery* rode, and obliged her people to moor with the bow anchors.

As none of the islanders had yet made their appearance, notwithstanding the firing of a second gun, Captain Gore thought it adviseable to go ashore in search of them, that we might lose no time in opening a traffic for such provisions as the place could furnish us with. For this purpose, he desired Captain King to accompany him, in the morning of the 22d; and as the wind, at that time, blew violently from the eastward, they did not think it consistent with prudence to coast in their boats to the town, which stands on the eastern side of this island, but towed round the northern point of the harbour.

On their first leaving the wood, a herd of buffaloes, consisting of at least twenty, ran towards them, tossing up their heads, snuffing the air, and making a hideous roaring.

After the buffaloes had been driven off, our party were conducted to the town, which was about a mile distant; the road to it lying through a deep whitish sand. It stands near the sea-side, at the bottom of a retired bay, which affords good shelter during the prevalence of the south-west monsoon.

The islander who acted as a guide to our party, conducted them to the largest house in the town,