

looking around me in amazement and terror. Whichsoever way I turned, nothing appeared but danger and difficulty. I saw myself in the midst of a vast wilderness, in the depth of the rainy season, naked and alone, surrounded by savage animals, and by men still more savage; I was five hundred miles from the nearest European settlement. All these circumstances crowded at once upon my recollection; and I confess my spirits began to fail me. I considered my fate as certain, and that I had no alternative but to lie down and die. The influence of religion, however, aided and supported me. I reflected, that no human prudence or foresight could possibly have averted my present sufferings. I was indeed a stranger in a strange land; yet I was still under the protecting eye of that Providence, who has condescended to call himself the stranger's friend. At this moment, painful as my feelings were, the extraordinary beauty of a small moss irresistibly caught my eye. I mention this, to show from what trifling circumstances the mind will sometimes derive consolation; for though the whole plant was not larger than my finger, I could not contemplate the delicate structure of its parts without admiration. Can that Being, thought I, who planted, watered, and brought to perfection, in this obscure part of the world, a thing of so small importance, look with unconcern on the situation and sufferings of creatures formed after his own image? Surely not! Reflections like these would not allow me