

for setting sail with the first fair wind. At noon this day, we found the latitude of this road of *Pelebre*, or *Pelabry*, to be 26' N. of the equator, the variation being 3° 28', and the highest land in the island of Machian bearing W.N.W. half a point westerly.

On the 5th of April we weighed anchor with little wind, and the current setting to the southwards, we drove to sea under our foresail, passing a-head of the Moon, the larger of the Dutch ships, which made a fair shot under our stern, which we presently answered close a-head of his admiral, expecting farther, but heard no more of them. At noon they both weighed and followed us; but having the wind at S.W. we were far to windward, so that the natives came aboard of us with cloves for a time, as fast as we could weigh and pay for them, the Dutch being unable to hinder. There came also an Orankey aboard, who promised us a good parcel of cloves, if we could come near the shore in the evening. The 6th, about fifty cattedes of cloves were brought to us in several canoes. Towards evening, I stood rather nearer the shore than I wished, in consequence of seeing a west, on which I sent a skiff to the Orankey, who said his cloves were ready, and should be brought aboard in the dark. But in consequence of a Dutch curracurra passing by, he was in such fear, that though our people offered to guard him, he durst not venture aboard.

In the morning of the 16th, we were abreast of *Mootiere*, four leagues from the western point of Machian, N. by E. half a point easterly; and three leagues from it to the north is the island of *Marro*, two leagues beyond which is *Tidore*, between and around all which islands is clear passage on all sides, without any danger. Our latitude at noon was 0° 25', and we could see the two Dutch ships to the southwards, plying after us. In sailing from *Marro* to *Tidore*, it is proper to keep a sharp look-out, as there is a long shoal in the fair way, quite even with the sea at high-water, close to which the water has a whitish look. This shoal stretches N.E. and S.W. between *Marro* and *Battachina*. It is seen at low-water, the ebb being six feet, the tide setting six hours to the north, and six to the south; but if you keep close to the islands, there is no fear.

The Spanish fort is on the east side of *Tidore*, where there is deep water close in shore; and, while off that place, the wind suddenly fell quite calm, so that the current set us  
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