

during the nine days they remained on this desolate spot.

At this time, they fully expected that the boy would not live till morning ; he was nearly exhausted, but humanity prompted the use of extraordinary means, and a kind providence rendered those means successful. They immediately, and very prudently, commenced exercising themselves in walking as fast and as far as their strength would allow ; and, while thus engaged, they discovered a solitary sheep ; a small flock was afterwards found, but this appeared to have strayed from the rest, directly in their path. One of them suggested that the warm skin, fresh from the slaughtered sheep, might save the boy's life ; in half an hour they had killed this one, and skinned it, wrapping the skin closely round the naked body of the boy. They then covered him with grass, which they pulled with their hands, and left him to attend to their own safety.

The night was spent in more serious play than such exercise is usually employed for ; running, wrestling, rolling on the ground, and other kinds of exercise, were alternately used ; and in this manner the long tedious night was passed ; they could not sit down for even a few minutes, without feeling their limbs stiffening to that degree, that they had immediately to renew their efforts to preserve their lives. During the night, a vessel passed the island almost within hail ;