

A P P E N D I X.

Since our being captured, Captain Colnett has been in a high state of insanity; sometimes he starts, at others he asks how long he has to live? who is to be his executioner? what death he is to be put to? with all such delirious expressions, accompanied by a number of simple actions, which induces me, and every other person who sees him, to believe his brain is turned, owing to the great charge that was under his care; and I am sorry to add, that he has not fortitude enough, in this critical and disagreeable situation, to support this unexpected stroke. He has delivered me his instructions and the South Sea Company's grant, and requests I will act in his name. I have endeavoured to convince the Spaniards, had we known this place had been taken possession of by the King of Spain, we would not, on any consideration, have come near it: I have likewise wished to persuade him to peruse the South Sea Company's grant and our instructions; which he refuses, and tells me it would avail nothing now to do it, as his officers insist on his going on with what he acknowledges he too rashly and hastily began, and without deliberating what might hereafter be the consequence. He desired me to inclose the grant and our instructions in his presence; he took and put a small note with them, and afterwards sealed it with his own signet: he then put it under my care, desiring that I would deliver it to the Viceroy of Mexico. The vessel is going to St. Blas, a settlement they have in the latitude of $21^{\circ}30'$ North, on the coast of California, where we are going, to determine whether we are a prize to the King of Spain or not; if we are not, as we have every reason to expect, she will be delivered up with every thing in her, and be answerable for all damages received or stores deficient, since his making a prize of us; but this undoubtedly will be settled between the two crowns.

Captain Colnett, myself, Mr. Temple, and Reid the carpenter, are permitted to remain on board the Argonaut; Mr. Hanson on board the Commodore's ship; and Messrs. Gibson and Ludlow on board the Spanish snow.

From what I can learn at present, all the Englishmen are to be sent in the Argonaut to St. Blas, and preparations are now making to accommodate us in that vessel: they have also built cabins between decks for the seamen, where they are to be confined in irons during the night, but suffered to walk out in the day; the officers, I believe, are also to be used in like manner. I am at present in possession of my cabin, as are also the rest of us, and the commodore behaves with great civility, by obliging us in every liberty that can be expected as prisoners. Whatever deficiency may be left concerning our present transactions, will be explained to you in its true light by Mr. Funter or Mr. Barnett; for I confess that I am very unhappy, unsettled, uneasy, and in short, feel every anxiety that is the companion of a person involved in so disagreeable a situation as I am.

I am,

Dear Sir,

Your's most obediently,

(Signed)

B. DUFFIN.

P. S.

Since