

work, and all other precautions taken to give our, inconsiderable force a respectable appearance.

We considered it as our duty to furnish ourselves with the means of defence, though there was some reason to believe, that they had, in a great measure, been rendered superfluous by the generosity of our enemies. Captain King had been informed at Canton, that, in the public prints, which had last arrived from Great Britain, mention was made of instructions having been found on board all the French ships of war, that had been taken in Europe, importing, that their commanders, if they should happen to fall in with the ships which had sailed from England under the command of Captain Cook, should suffer them to proceed unmolested on their voyage. It was also reported, that the American Congress had given similar orders to the vessels employed in their service. This intelligence being farther confirmed by the private letters of some of the supercargoes, Captain Gore deemed it incumbent on him, in return for the liberal exceptions which our enemies had made in our favour, to refrain from embracing any opportunities of capture, which these might afford, and to maintain the strictest neutrality during the whole of his voyage.

Having got under sail, about two o'clock in the afternoon, the Resolution saluted the fort of Macao with eleven guns; and the salutation was returned with an equal number. The wind failing at five, the ship missed stays, and drove into shallow water; but an anchor being carried out, she was hauled off, without sustaining any damage.

After passing some islands, and encountering various winds, on the 20th we came to an anchor in the harbour of Pulo Condore, where we procured some buffaloes, and recruited our wood and water.

At six o'clock we anchored in six fathoms water, with the best bower; and the Discovery was kept steady with a stream anchor and cable towards the