

were made, I proceeded, feeling rather than seeing my way, till I arrived at an house, and soon discovered several fires in small huts, with people busily employed in cooking their fish. I walked into one of them without the least ceremony, threw down my burden, and, after shaking hands with some of the people, sat down upon it. They received me with no appearance of surprize, but soon made signs for me to go up to the large house, which was erected on upright posts, at some distance from the ground. A broad piece of timber with steps cut in it led to the scaffolding even with the floor, and, by this kind of ladder I entered the house at one end; and having passed three fires, at equal distances, in the middle of the building, I was received by several people, sitting upon a very wide board. I shook hands with them, and seated myself beside a man, the dignity of whose countenance induced me to give him that preference. I soon discovered one of my guides seated a little above me, with a neat mat spread before him, which I supposed to be the place of honour, and appropriated to strangers. In a short time my people arrived, and placed themselves near me, when the man, by whom I sat, immediately rose, and fetched, from behind a plank of about four feet wide, a quantity of roasted salmon. The same plank served also as a skreen for the beds, to which the women and children were already retired. The signs of our protector seemed to denote, that we might sleep in the house, but as we did not perfectly understand him, I thought it prudent, from the fear of giving offence, to order the men to make a fire without, that we might sleep by it. When he observed our design, he placed boards for us, that we might not take our repose on the bare ground, and ordered a fire to be prepared for us. We had not been long seated round it, when we received a large dish of salmon roes, pounded fine and beat up with water, so as