

the sun continually present, rendered them capable of remaining without sleep, so that they often passed three days in this manner without any visible inconvenience; returning after a meal of this kind to their labour on the ice, or in the boats, quite refreshed, and continuing at it without a murmur. The exercise was doubtless a considerable preventive of the scurvy, which was the complaint most to be feared. As long as the vegetables lasted, no lime-juice was served; when the men got wet, which often happened, they were made to shift their clothes and put on dry ones: caps of canvas, lined with flannel, were made for them; these were conical in shape, and large enough to cover the shoulders, and button under the chin; they had the effect of keeping the neck and breast warm, and being painted on the outside, turned the water off effectually; they were made use of in rainy, snowy, or foggy weather. With these precautions, and the men being all of good constitution, they never had a sick person, and when they arrived at this part of their voyage, no crews were ever in higher health and spirits.

Lieutenant Robertson, and other officers, were stationed at the mast-head to look out for the direction of the coast; and they made their reports that they were satisfied they had seen the land completely round this bay at different times; as did also the officers of the *Alexander*, who were at the mast-head of that ship at the same time.

On the 10th of August, at fifty minutes past midnight the ship being nearly on the seventy-seventh degree of north latitude, ten leagues to the westward of Cape Saumarez, which forms the east side and the bottom of this bay, the land was distinctly seen. On the 20th and 21st, when off Cape Clarence, at the distance of six leagues, the land which forms the west side, and the bottom of this bay, was also distinctly seen, and by two observations the coast is determined to be connected all round. At each of these periods this immense bay was observed to be covered with