

of the day, and kept the wind, which now blew from the north east by north, in order to secure our passage to Macao. It was a fortunate circumstance that the wind favoured us towards the evening, by veering two points more to the eastward; for, if the wind and weather had continued the same as they had been in the preceding week, we think we should scarcely have been able to have fetched that port, in which case we must have repaired to Batavia; a place we had good reason to dread, from the terrible havoc which the unhealthiness of the climate had occasioned among the crews of the former vessels that had been employed in voyages of discovery, and had touched there.

In the morning of Monday the 29th, we passed some Chinese fishing-boats, the crews of which eyed us with marks of great indifference. In fishing, they make use of a large dredge-net, resembling a hollow cone in shape, with a flat iron rim fixed to the lower part of its mouth. The net is fastened with cords to the head and stern of the boat, which being left to follow the impulse of the wind, draws the net after it, with the iron rim dragging along the bottom. We found the sea, to our great regret, covered with the wrecks of boats which had been lost, as we supposed, in the stormy weather.

Our latitude at twelve o'clock, by observation, was $22^{\circ} 1'$; and, since the preceding noon, we had run a hundred and ten miles upon a north-west course. As we were now nearly in the latitude of the Lema Islands, we made sail to the west by north, and, after we had proceeded two and twenty miles, descried one of them nine or ten leagues to the west.

At six in the afternoon we were four or five leagues distant from the nearest; our soundings being twenty-two fathoms, over a muddy bottom. We now slackened sail, and kept upon our tacks for the night.

The next morning we ran along the Lema Isles, which, like the other islands situated on this coast, are destitute of wood, and, as far as we had an op-