

still continued; and that probably the *French* might engage in the assistance of *Spain*, before he could arrive in *Great-Britain*; and therefore, knowing that no intelligence could get to *Europe* of the prize he had taken, and the treasure he had on board, till the return of the merchantmen from *Canton*, he was resolved to make all possible expedition in getting back, that he might be himself the first messenger of his own good fortune, and might thereby prevent the enemy from forming any projects to intercept him: For these reasons, he, to avoid all delay, accepted of the sum offered for the galeon; and she being delivered to the Merchants the 15th of *December* 1743, the *Centurion*, the same day, got under sail, on her return to *England*. And, on the 3d of *January*, she came to an anchor at *Prince's Island* in the Streights of *Sunda*, and continued there wooding and watering till the 8th; when she weighed and stood for *The Cape of Good Hope*, where, on the 11th of *March*, she anchored in *Table-bay*.

*The Cape of Good Hope* is situated in a temperate climate; where the excesses of heat and cold are rarely known; and the *Dutch* inhabitants, who are numerous, and who here retain their native industry, have stock'd it with prodigious plenty of all sort of fruits and provisions; most of which, either from the equality of the seasons, or the peculiarity of the soil, are more delicious in their kind than can be met with elsewhere: So that by these, and by the excellent water which abounds there, this settlement is the best provided of any in the known world, for the refreshment of seamen after long voyages. Here the Commodore continued till the beginning of *April*, highly delighted with the place