

in the mud about two hours. This circumstance at our first setting out, which occasioned only a small delay, instead of checking the ardour of our men, served only to inspire them with hopes of meeting with fewer crotles in the prosecution of their voyage. On the 16th we anchored in the Downs, and moored the ship. During our continuance here, we sent the pilot on shore, and received from Deal a large twelve-oared barge for the service of our ship, with a quantity of fresh beef and greens. This day the Tamar passed us for Plymouth, and on the day following we received the honourable Capt. Byron on board.

Thursday the 21st, we weighed and sailed from the Downs; and in the night had a violent squall of wind, which, at that season of the year, might be reckoned rather uncommon. On the 22nd, at eight o'clock, A.M. we anchored in Plymouth Sound, and saluted the admiral with 13 guns; and at nine, having received a pilot on board, sailed into Hamouze, and lashed alongside the Sheer Hulk. As the Dolphin had taken the ground, the men on board were, according to orders, employed in getting out the guns and booms for docking; it being thought adviseable to examine if she had sustained any damage, when it appeared, that the ship had happily not received any hurt. On the 28th she came out of dock, and having replaced her guns and stores, we sailed into the sound, where we moored, and found the Tamar lying between the island and the main, having unhung her rudder, to repair some small damage she had sustained. While we remained at Plymouth, our men received two months pay advance, in order to enable them to purchase necessaries; a privilege granted to all his Majesty's ships bound to distant ports; at which time the inhabitants on shore have the liberty of coming on board to sell them shirts, jackets, and trowsers, which are termed slops. After a stay of four days, the honourable John Byron, our Commodore, hoisted his broad-pendant, he being, as was reported, appointed commander in chief of all his Majesty's ships in the East Indies. Immediately upon this a signal was