

leave to furnish the ship with provisions ; but this permission was clogged with the conditions of employing an inhabitant as a factor, and of sending a soldier in the Endeavour's boat every time she came from shore to the vessel. To these uncivil terms the captain made many objections ; but the Viceroy was determined to insist on them, neither would he permit Mr. Banks and Dr. Solander to remain on shore, nor suffer the former to go up the country to collect plants. Captain Cook conceiving from these and other marks of jealousy, that the Viceroy thought they were come to trade, used all his endeavours to convince him to the contrary ; and acquainted him, that they were bound to the South Seas, to observe the Transit of Venus over the disk of the sun, an object of great consequence to the improvement of navigation ; but the Viceroy by his answer seemed ignorant of the phenomenon. An officer was now appointed to attend the captain, which order he was desired to understand as an intended compliment ; however, when he would have declined such a ceremony, the viceroy very politely forced it upon him.

Dr. Solander and Mr. Banks were not a little chagrined on hearing that they would not be permitted to reside on shore, and still more so when they understood that they were not even allowed to quit the ship ; for the viceroy had ordered, that the captain only, with such sailors as were required by their duty, should come on shore. However, they attempted to go on shore, but were stopped by the guard-boat ; yet several of the crew, without the knowledge of the centinel, let themselves down by a rope from the cabin window into the boat about midnight, and drove away with the tide, till they were out of hearing. They afterwards landed on an unfrequented part of the country, and were treated by the inhabitants with great civility.

Captain