

On Saturday the 16th, towards the evening, the weather cleared up, and we then found ourselves encompassed with land. Our station was on the eastern side of the Sound, in a place distinguished by the appellation of Snug-corner Bay.— Captain Cook accompanied by some of his officers, went to take a survey of the head of it, and they found that it was sheltered from all winds, and had a muddy bottom at the depth of from seven to three fathoms. The land near the shore is low, and well wooded. The clear ground was covered with snow, but very little remained in the woods. The summits of the hills in the neighbourhood were covered with wood: but those that were at a greater distance inland, had the appearance of naked rocks involved with snow.

The leak of the Resolution being at length stopped, we weighed anchor on the 17th, at four in the morning, and steered a north west course. When we had reached the north western point of the arm wherein we had anchored, we observed that the flood tide came into the inlet by the same channel through which we had entered. This circumstance did not much contribute to the probability of a passage to the north through the inlet, though it did not make entirely against it. After we had passed the point above mentioned, we met with much foul ground, and many sunken rocks. The wind now failed us, and was succeeded by calms and variable light airs, so that we had some difficulty in extricating ourselves from the danger that threatened us. At last, however, about one o'clock, we cast anchor in about thirteen fathoms water under the eastern shore, about four leagues to the northward of our last station. Though the weather in the morning had been very hazy, it cleared up afterwards, so as to afford us a distinct view of all the surrounding land, particularly towards the north, where it appeared too close. This gave us but little hope of meeting with a passage that way. That he might be enabled to form a better judgment, Captain Cook sent Mr. Gore, with two armed boats, to examine the northern arm; and at the same time dispatched the Moller, with two other boats, to survey another arm that seemed to incline towards the east. Both of them returned at night. The Master informed the Commodore, that the arm to which he had been sent communicated with that we had last quitted, and that one side of it was formed by a cluster of islands. Mr. Gore reported, that he had seen the entrance of an arm, which, he thought extended a very considerable way to the north-eastward, and by which a passage might probably be found. On the other hand, Mr. Roberts, one of the Mates, who had accompanied Mr. Gore on this occasion, gave it as his opinion, that they saw the head of this arm. The variation of these two opinions, and the circumstance before mentioned of the flood tide entering the inlet from the southward, rendered the existence of a passage this way extremely uncertain. Captain Cook therefore determined to employ no more time in seeking a passage in a place that afforded so small a prospect of success,