

in hopes of descrying the island, which must be very low, unless its situation had been determined quite inaccurately.

The 22d, at break of day, I again directed my course to W., and expected every moment to hear it announced from the mast-head that land had been discovered; but in vain! At eight o'clock, according to the ship's reckoning, we were in latitude $16^{\circ} 56'$, longitude $169^{\circ} 21'$, consequently almost on the point on which the island was said to lie, without discovering any thing. The many sea-fowls, however, still kept up my hope; but at noon, when our longitude far exceeded that of the island, I was obliged to give it up, as it now appeared probable that the Cornwallis frigate had been mistaken in fixing the longitude. Our latitude, according to observation, at noon, was $17^{\circ} 3'$, longitude $170^{\circ} 1'$; we had consequently been carried by the current six miles to the N. in 24 hours, and must certainly, if their latitude had been accurately determined, have sailed past Cornwallis islands at such a short distance, that we must have seen them had they been ever so low. At noon I gave up looking further for the islands, being convinced that I had sailed by them, which was confirmed by the small number of sea-fowl, and now steered to S.W., with the intention of coming into the latitude of the island of St. Pedro, the longitude of which I wished to determine, if it existed at all. A strong E. wind favoured our course; the weather