

his body after the most violent manner, till nature has almost lost all her faculties before the stubborn spirit will become visible to him, which they say is generally in the shape of some bird. There is usually a stake drove into the ground about four foot high and painted. I suppose this they design for the *winged airy Being* to perch upon, while he reveals to the invocant what he has taken so much pains to know. However, I find different nations have different ways of obtaining the pretended information. Some have a bowl of water, into which they often look, when their strength is almost exhausted, and their senses failing, to see whether the spirit is ready to answer their demands. I have seen many of these places in my travels. They differ from their sweating coops, in that they are often far from water, and have a stake by the cage, yet both have a heap of red hot stones put in. At 11 we dressed our dinner, and found an *Indian* by the river side, resting himself; all his provision was a dried eel; this he made us a present of. and we gave him a share of our dinner. Their way of roasting eels is thus; they cut a stick about three foot long, and as thick as one's thumb, they split it about a foot down, and when the eel is gutted, they coil it between the two sides of the stick, and bind the top close, which keeps the eel flat, and then stick one end in the ground before a good fire.