

6 CAPTAIN COOKE'S VOYAGES.

was made pilot on board the Duke to direct it. Of him the reader has already heard enough in the former volume of this Work ; and from the character of the leaders it is natural to infer, that they were choice in the appointment of their inferior officers, and that even the common men were not of the meaner sort.

The general instructions of the owners were, first, to repair to Ireland to take in provisions, and then to proceed with all possible expedition to the South Sea ; if luckily they met with any prizes by the way, they were either to send them home or to America, as should best suit ; they were ordered by all means to keep together, and to act in concert ; to undertake no enterprise of consequence without first deliberating the matter in a general council of officers in both ships ; to be particularly careful in assisting each other in every circumstance of necessity ; and that in giving relief in times of danger, or in supplying provisions or water in case of want, they should be as one ship, and that on no pretence the one should be suffered to want while the other had any thing to supply ; but, as they were to share alike in all advantages, they should share alike too in all sufferings.

Thus fitted out and thus instructed, and the officers of both ships being provided with legal commissions to cruise against her Majesty's enemies, the French and Spaniards, in the South Seas, on the first of August, 1708, they unmoored from King-road, and on the 4th of the
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