

finest to salt provisions, enjoy this healing vegetable diet, as a special blessing of an all gracious Providence, particularly visible in providing in different climates different food and nourishment, suitable to his nature, wants and necessities.

On Sunday, Jan. 22, having got in our wood and water, we sailed out of the bay, and continued our course through the Strait; and in passing this, notwithstanding the description which some voyagers have given of Terra del Fuego, we did not find that it had, agreeable to their representations, such a forbidding aspect. On the contrary, we found the sea coasts and the sides of the hills clothed with verdure. Indeed the summits of the hills were barren, but the valleys appeared rich, and a brook was generally found at the foot of almost every hill; and though the water had a reddish tinge, yet it was far from being ill tasted. Upon the whole, it was the best we took on board during our voyage. Nine miles westward of Cape St. Diego, the low point that forms the north entrance of the Strait of Le Maire, are three hills, called the Three Brothers; and on Terra del Fuego is another hill, in the form of a sugar-loaf, which stands on the west side not far from the sea. We had not that difficulty mentioned in the history of Lord Anson's voyage, in finding where the Strait of Le Maire lies. No ship can well miss the Strait that keeps Terra del Fuego in sight, for it will then be easily discovered; and Staten island which lies on the east side will be still more plainly perceived, for there is no land on Terra del Fuego like it. And let it be further particularly observed, that the entrance of the Strait should be attempted only with a fair wind, when the weather too is moderate, and likewise, upon the beginning of the tide of flood, which here falls out upon the full and change of the moon, about one or two o'clock; let it also be remembered, to keep as near the shore of Terra del Fuego as the winds will permit.

The Strait of Le Maire is bounded on the west by Terra del Fuego, and on the east by the west end of Staten island, and is nearly five leagues in length, nor less in breadth. The bay of Good Success is seated about the middle of it, on the side of Terra del Fuego, which presents itself at the entrance of the Strait from the northward; and the south end of it may be distinguished by a land mark, resembling a road from the sea to the country. It affords good anchorage, and plenty of wood and water. Staten land did not appear to Captain Cook in the same manner as it did to Commodore Anson. That horror and wildness, mentioned by the Commodore, were not observed by our gentlemen; on the contrary the land appeared to be neither destitute of wood nor verdure, nor was it covered with snow; and on the north side we saw the appearances of bays and harbours. It is probable, that the season of the year and other circumstances might concur to occasion such different representations of a land, which all our circumnavigators must own to be unfriendly and disagreeably situated. On the west side of the Cape of Good Success, whereby is formed the south west entrance of the Strait, we saw the mouth of Valentine's bay; from whence the land lies in a direction west south-west for more than twenty leagues, appearing high and mountainous, with several inlets and bays. Fourteen leagues from the bay of Good Success, south-west half-west, and nearly three leagues from the shore, is New Island; terminating to the north-east in a remarkable hillock; and seven leagues from hence, south-west, lies Eyout's isle; a little to the west of the south of which are two small low islands, near to each other, called Barnevelt's. These are partly surrounded with rocks, which rise to different heights above the water, and are twenty-four leagues from the Strait of Le Maire. Three leagues south west by south, from Barnevelt's islands, is the south-east point of Hermit's islands, which lie south-east and north-west. They appeared to us, in different points of view, sometimes as one island, and at others as part of the main. From the south-east point of these islands to Cape Horn, the course is south-west by south, distant

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three leagues. Hermit, who commanded the Dutch Squadron in 1624, certainly put into some of them, and Chapenham, vice admiral of this Squadron, first discovered that Cape Horn was formed by a cluster of islands. Between the Strait of Le Maire and Cape Horn we found, when near the shore, the current setting generally strong to the north-east; but we lost it at the distance of fifteen or twenty leagues from land.

January the 26th we took our departure from Cape Horn, and the farthest southern latitude we made was 60 deg. 10 min. and our longitude was then 74 deg. 30 min. west. Cape Horn is situated in 55 deg. 53 min. south latitude, and 68 deg. 13 min. west longitude. The weather being very calm, Mr. Banks failed in a small boat to shoot birds, when he killed some sheer-waters, and albatrosses. The latter were larger than those which had been taken to the northward of the Strait, and proved to be very good food. At this time we found ourselves to be 12 deg. to the westward, and three and a half to the northward of the Strait of Magellan, having, from the east entrance of the Strait, been three and thirty days in sailing round Cape Horn. Notwithstanding the doubling of Cape Horn is represented as a very dangerous course, and that it is generally thought passing through the Strait of Magellan is less perilous, yet the Endeavour doubled it with as little danger as she would the north Foreland on the Kentish coast; the heavens were serenely fair, the wind temperate, the weather pleasant, and, being near shore, we had a very distinct view of the coast. The Dolphin, in her last voyage, which was performed at the same season with ours, was not less than three months in passing through the Strait of Magellan, not including the time that she lay in Port Famine; and it was the opinion of Captain Cook, that if we had come through the Strait, we should not at this time have been in these seas; and should have suffered many inconveniences which we have not experienced. It is a question, Whether it is better to go through the Strait of Le Maire, or to stand to the eastward, and go round Staten land? This can only be determined according to particular circumstances, which may make one or the other more eligible. The Strait may be passed with safety by attending to the directions already given; but if the land is fallen in with to the eastward of the Strait, and the wind should prove tempestuous, it would be best, in our opinion, to go round Staten land. In any case, however, we cannot approve of running into the latitude of 61 or 62, before any attempt is made to stand to the westward.

March the 1st we found ourselves, both by observation and the log, in latitude 38 deg. 44 min. south, and 110 deg. 33 min. west longitude, a concurrence very singular in a run of 660 leagues; and which proved, that no current had affected the ship in her course, and it was likewise concluded, that we had not come near land of any considerable extent; for currents are always found at no great distance from the shore. Mr. Banks killed above sixty birds in one day; also two forest flies, such as had never yet been described; he also found a cuttle-fish of a species different from those generally known in Europe. This fish had a double row of talons, resembling those of a cat, which it could put forth or withdraw at pleasure. When dressed it made excellent soup. On the 24th our latitude was 22 deg. 11 min. south, and 127 deg. 55 min. west longitude. On the 25th a young marine about twenty threw himself overboard, on account of a quarrel about a piece of seal skin, which he took by way of frolic; but being charged with it as a theft, he took the accusation so much to heart, that in the dusk of the evening he threw himself into the sea and was drowned.

On the 4th of April about 10 o'clock, A. M. Peter Bristoe, servant to Mr. Banks, discovered land to the south, at the distance of about three or four leagues. Capt. Cook immediately gave orders to haul for it, when we found an island of an oval form, having a lagoon or lake in the center, that extended over the

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