

Missionaries embraced this opportunity of conveying letters to England by the American brig.

18th. At 2 P. M. discovered a strange sail in the west, steering as if to speak us. At half past 6 she came within pistol shot. The night being very dark, the ship appeared large, with her gun deck ports open and illuminated from stem to stern. This formidable appearance was a grand but dismal sight to us; for supposing she was an enemy, we were in anxious suspense whether we should be carried to France or Otaheite. But our fears soon subsided; on hailing, she proved to be the Jack Park of Liverpool, bound to the coast of Guinea for slaves; and of twenty-two vessels she had examined, we were the only English one.

Oct. 29th. At 2 A. M. crossed the equator,—fresh and pleasant breezes from the S. E. At noon, lat. 0 41' S. The usual ceremony observed by Neptune and his company on this occasion was omitted.

31st. Discovered the coast of South America on the starboard bow, distant about 11 or 12 leagues. At 10 A. M. the society met for the election of a new committee; after which some conversation ensued concerning our future plan of operations. The majority of the Missionaries concurred in opinion that a separation of the society in detachments amongst the islands, would be most likely to answer the object of the mission. However nothing decisive at this time took place as to the formation of parties.

Nov. 11th, discovered land on the starboard bow,