

had before been imagined but one. this strait bears his name, and is often traversed by vessels from new south wales returning home by way of cape horn. in his majestys ship warsprite passed through this strait in company with the volage, twenty eight guns, being the first english line of battleship which had ever made the attempt. a few years since, captain stewart, commanding a colonial vessel out of port jackson, discovered another strait, which cut off the extreme southern point, making it a separate island that bears his name, and now almost every year our sealers and whalers are making additional and useful discoveries along its coasts. these islands lie between lat. $^{\circ}$ and $^{\circ}$ s. and long. $^{\circ}$ and $^{\circ}$ e. the opening of the land to which we were now opposite, and which was our destined port, the accurate eye of cook had observed, but did not attempt the entrance; and it is only about ten years since, when the two store ships, the dromedary and coromandel, loaded with spars on the coast, that a small vessel attending on those ships first crossed the bar; but although they took soundings and laid down buoys, the commanders of the large vessels were afraid of attempting the entrance, which proved their good sense, for their great draught of water would have rendered the undertaking more hazardous than the risk was worth. yet during my residence in this country two large vessels crossed the bar, and recrossed it heavily laden, without the slightest accident one the harmony, of london, tons burden; the other the elizabeth, of sydney, of nearly equal tonnage but in proof that it is not always safe, a few months after this, two schooners of extremely light draught were lost, though they were both led away, that if any of them should be taken by the spaniards, they might use them for ransom. thus they got to their ship, and with all speed put to sea, forcing the prisoners, before they let them go, to procure them as much flesh as was necessary for their voyage to jamaica. but no sooner had they weighed anchor, when they saw a troop of about five hundred spaniards, all well armed, at the sea side: against these they let fly several guns, wherewith they forced them to quit the sands, and retire, with no small regret to see these pirates carry away so much plate of their churches and houses, though distant at least forty leagues from the sea. these pirates got, on this occasion, above four thousand pieces of eight in money, besides much plate, and many jewels; in all, to the value of fifty thousand pieces of eight, or more: with all this they arrived at jamaica soon after. but this sort of people being never long masters of their money, they were soon constrained to seek more by the same means; and captain john davis, presently after his return, was chosen admiral of seven or eight vessels, he being now esteemed an able conductor for such enterprises. he began his new command by directing his fleet to the north of cuba, there to wait for the fleet from new spain; but missing his design, they determined for florida. being arrived there, they landed their men, and sacked a small city named st. augustine of florida. the castle had a garrison of two hundred men, but could not prevent the pillage of the city, they effecting it without the least damage from the soldiers or townsmen. of the origin of guarded, and not so easily to be done. and who did he prove to be after all no other than the well known major semple, whose depredations of this sort upon the public rendered him so notorious. having finished their repast, tom was for a move; and they took their way along thames street in the direction for tower hill. this life is all chequerd with pleasures and woes that chase one another like waves of the deep, each billow, as brightly or darkly it flows, reflecting our eyes as they sparkle or weep; so closely our whims on our miseries tread, that the laugh is awakd ere the tear can be dried; and as fast as the rain drop of pity is shed, the goose plumage of folly can turn it aside; but, pledge me the cup if existence can cloy with hearts ever light and heads ever wise, be ours the light grief that is sister to joy, and the short brilliant folly that flashes and dies. the building before us, said tom, is the tower of london, which was formerly a palace inhabited by the various sovereigns of this country till the reign of queen elizabeth. fitzstephens says, it was originally built by julius cesar; but i believe there is no proof of the truth of this assertion, except that one of the towers is to this day called csars tower. it seems a place of great security, said bob. yes william the conqueror erected a fortress on part of its present site, to overawe the inhabitants of london on his gaining possession of the city, and about