

yet for more security they cross over against *Monvidio* into the South Channel, because 'tis broader and has Three Fathom and a half Water at least where 'tis shallowest; all the bottom is muddy till within 2 Leagues of *Buenos Ayres* where lyes a sand Bank, there they take in Pilots to Steer them to a place call'd the *Posso* just before the Town, distant a Cannon shot from Shore, wherein no Vessels may enter but such as have a Licence from the King of *Spain*, those that have no such permission are oblig'd to Anchor a League Lower. The River is full of Fish, but of them there are hardly more than Seven or Eight sorts good to eat, there are abundance of those Whales call'd *Gibars*, and Sea-dogs who commonly bring forth their young ashore, and whose Skin is fit for several uses. I was told that about 5 or 6 Years before I came there, the River was almost dry'd up for some days, no Water being left but only in the middle Channel, and there so little, that they forded it on Horseback, as one may do most of the Rivers that fall into that *de la Plata*, in which there are likewise a great many *Otters*, with whose Skins the Savages Cloath themselves.