

a committee to correspond with your memorialists and to be entrusted with their concerns in England. 1792.
March 31

“Your Memorialists humbly submit the above plan to your consideration, trusting that their conduct in carrying the same into execution, will merit the favour and protection of government; and at the same time pray, that as they are at a great daily expence with the ships, and the proper season for going on the coast of Africa is fast elapsing, you will be pleased to take this memorial into consideration.”

On application we received permission to move the ships round to Portsmouth, which had been fixed upon as the place where we were all to rendezvous prior to our final departure from England, and there wait the issue of our memorial.

The Hankey therefore sailed from Gravesend on the evening of the 4th, and the following one anchored in the Downs, where having left a code of signals* to be delivered to the Calypso and Beggars Benison on their arrival there; we proceeded the next day on our way to Portsmouth. April 4.

The two days employed in this passage were usefully devoted to the arranging of the births, sleeping, and mess places of the colonists on board the Hankey, which was no very pleasant, nor easy task, as is well known to those who have witnessed the uneasiness, and consequent dissatisfaction, of those who for the first time have found themselves crowded into the narrow space, necessarily resulting from many persons being confined within the limits of a single ship. However, 6th.

* The direction of every thing on board the Hankey was committed to my care: —on board the Calypso, to that of Lieutenant Hancorne, and on board the Beggars Benison to Lieutenant Dobbin, both of the Royal Navy.