

CHAPTER II.

Proceedings of the Colonists from their leaving England to their arrival in the Bijuga Channel on the Coast of Africa.*

THE wind, which had changed to the westward as soon as we had got through the Needles, became fair the next morn, and increasing gradually to a stiff breeze, enabled us to clear the Channel on the evening of the 15th, when Sophia Ford, a girl who had died the preceding day of a decline, was committed to the deep. The next day we lost sight of the Beggar's Benison in the morn, and although in every consideration it was highly desirable that the ships should continue together during their passage, yet, from a very unaccountable inattention on board the Calypso, that ship parted from us in the following night.

As the weather was very fine, and the Calypso had the advantage of the Hankey in sailing, no blame whatever could be attached to the master of the latter ship, the Calypso was lost sight of indeed almost in the wind's eye, so that it was ever in her power to bear down upon, and close with the Hankey.

The wind had hitherto been very moderate, but on the 19th it increased so much as to produce a sea which was very inconvenient to those unaccustomed to it, and the consequence

* This is called in our charts the Bissao's entrance, and the islands on the south side of it are called in them the Bissago's islands; but adhering to the native pronunciation I call the latter the Bijuga islands, and the former the Bijuga channel.

1792.

April 13.
14th.

15th.

16th.

19th.

20th.