

and the consequence was, that from the sailing of the expedi-^{1792.}tion to the final abandoning of the island, I was never more ^{April 20.}cheerfully, willingly, nor implicitly obeyed, when armed with the authority of martial power, than I was by the members who were embarked in this undertaking.

We had now been long enough together to enable me to form some opinion of the probability of our success, from the general conduct and character of the colonists. I had from the first conceived that we had great exertions to make, and many difficulties to overcome before we could succeed in the establishment of a new colony; but at the same time thought that the exertions of every individual, being directed to the same end, would eventually insure our success; and not till I had been a week at sea, with this motley assemblage of unthinking mortals, was I convinced that those hopes which rested on the disinterested energy of individuals must be for ever given up: not that we had not any one on board the *Hankey* calculated for the expedition which we had undertaken; we certainly had some, but their number was small, very small indeed, when compared to all that were embarked.

Among some of those who had the direction of the enterprise, a constant attention to their own individual interest, and an entire neglect of that of the public; among others of them a total indifference to both; and a general apathy in all towards the adoption of such measures as would contribute to our success, left little ground for hope; added to which the general conduct of the subscribers was not such as to afford to the labourers an example of severe morality.

On Sunday morning prayers were read by a member of the ^{22d.}council to the assembled colonists.