

1792.
June 24. at 10 o'clock. This latter channel I immediately went to explore, and found it safe and commodious, having from 7 to 15 fathoms through its whole extent, within pistol shot of either shore. The day following I sailed in the Beggar's Benison for the island of Canabac, accompanied by Mr. Dobbin and Capt. Moore, to effect the object without which our enterprize were vain, as well as unjust.

We had put on board the cutter an assortment of goods which had been chosen in Europe, to make presents of to the native chiefs, and to purchase of them the island of Bulama; and two grumetas of Captain Moore's who were to be our interpreters to the Bijugas.*

26th. We anchored at Canabac late in the evening of the 26th, and had only day-light enough to land one of our interpreters,† to open the purpose of our coming, and deliver the customary presents for the king. He was joined on the beach by many of the natives.

Although we had learned through the Grumetas, who had redeemed our women, that the Bijugas were willing to treat with us for the sale of the island of Bulama, and had been told at Bissao, that we should find no difficulty in purchasing it, yet we were at the same time informed that these were a treacherous, and faithless people, in whose professions no confidence could be placed, and that we ought therefore to be always on our guard, for they would lose no opportunity of surprizing us if any thing was to be gained thereby. Gillion had therefore been directed

* The cluster of islands goes by the name of the Bijuga islands, Canabac is one of them; but all their inhabitants are called Bijugas.

† Whom I shall hereafter call Gillion, for that was his name, and an honest, good, and valuable man he was.