

ways were blocked up, and there was a four-pounder in the east and south ones.

The Bijugas, as before mentioned, occupied a hut, about 30 yards from the block-house; and I made their king Bellchore, having first pointed out to him the powder and the matches, sleep in my cot. A few minutes afterwards, Nash, who had been accustomed to sleep on board the cutter, (where I had only one man, and who was now on board, with orders to fire directly into the hut if he heard *two* musquets discharged in the night,) came to me, and requested to go on board the cutter to sleep as usual—this I refused. He threatened to swim on board; and I promised to shoot him if he made the attempt. He had never yet known me break my promise, and therefore went to the post where I had ordered him. I laid down, wrapped up in a cloak in the middle of the east gateway, with a brace of pistols under my head. Five sentinels called all's well, every five minutes, and the night passed in peace.

The night was cold, and the wind was N. E. Two of the colonists are worse, and two of the grumetas are ill. All day taken up with Bellchore, endeavouring to get him away before night, without his perceiving that it arises from fear. Having made him and his people very handsome presents, I succeeded about an hour before dark, when he left us. Saluted him as he went out of the harbour. I attribute our safety to the powder; he certainly meant to attack us.

At day-light went to work again. Employed in logging the tambours, and boarding the upper part of the block-house. At noon, assembled our four men and the grumetas; then severely upbraided Nash for his base and cowardly conduct, during Bellchore's visit, and praised Peter Hayles for being the

Z

1792.

Wednes.  
Dec. 5.Thurs.  
6th.Friday,  
7th.