

Thursday 27th May 1819

104 ~~173~~ (6)

The wind against us. Employed as before. Last night a little before 12 o'clock an alarm was raised in the Cuddy with an intent to fright Mr. Butler, Mr. Croft and their families - That the Land was close at hand, and that the Ship was within a few fathoms of the breakers - The leadsmen sung out aloud from the chains, quainter legs &c. a great stamping was made on deck, and other devices used to make it appear as if the ship was actually in the greatest danger. Mr. Butler being disturbed from sleep, got of his clothes as soon as possible, and was hastening on deck to inform himself, as to the situation of the ship. When the Sentinel at the Cuddy door would not let him pass. - Some words ensued - and after a little scuffle Mr. B. forced himself out of the hands of the soldiers, and got on deck, being much agitated, and anxious for the safety of his wife and children, and when he got there found it all a joke. Mr. B. then returned and remonstrated with the Sentinel for the rough usage experienced from him. Upon which a young man not long since from school, who felt the situation of a soldier officer, blustered much at Mr. B. and said the soldier had done his duty in refusing to let him pass, and that if he (the officer) had been in his place Mr. B. should not have passed at all. Mr. Butler in anger, at being served in such an unwarrantable manner, called him puppy and made use of other strong language, epithets, which if they could be justified at all, might, in such a case as this. Captain Lamb, who it appears was privy to this cruel and disgraceful business, took up the words which Mr. B. in the moment of irritation had used, and in the most imperious manner talked of turning him out of the Cuddy altogether. Said he might think himself well off that the Sentinel had not run him through the body. And a deal more. This wanton joke does no credit to either the projector, or the actors. Mr. Butler in consequence of what has passed takes his food with us, and now at the Captain's table as heretofore. The Lord help us to possess our souls in patience, under all the trials we may have yet to come: and confound the devices of Satan and those who are doing his work: And enable us to pray for those who hate us, and despitefully entreat us. After what has taken place I think it right to add that Cap^m Lamb has treated Mr. Butler with continually a great part of this long voyage. - Amongst the rest of our troubles it grieves us that Tooi and Teetooee enjoy the joke so much, and prefer the company of those who hate us to ours. The ways of the world please them better than the ways of Gods people.

Lam: 37. 53 I Lang 131. 51 E