

14) ⁷⁰ some provisions to be got ready for our supper
they wished to kill an hog, but we would not
consent to this, as it was our intention to leave
them early in the morning. Shortly after our
arrival several natives came to see us from the
neighbouring Farms, with whom we spent the
evening; The following circumstance occurred while
we were in conversation which created a little bustle.
Sicut Mcbrae had seated himself on the stump of
a tree, with his coat block thrown over his shoul-
ders, where he was closely surrounded by the natives
when he got up he found the buttons cut off the
coat, and the clasp from the collar which some
one of the natives had carried off, he immediately
told the Chief, he had been robbed, and shewed
where the buttons had been cut off. A Boy whom
we had observed in the Company was accused
of the theft; but upon examination he could not
be found, which confirmed the suspicion. Per-
sons were immediately dispatched to apprehend
the boy; in about half an hour he was brought
before us, and examined. The boy denied the
charge, with a great deal of spirit. The Chief's
daughter insisted that he had committed the theft
another stout woman warmly vindicated the
boy's character when she was as warmly opposed
by a third woman. The altercation got to such
a pitch; that in a short time they came to
blows with their hands; and at length they
armed themselves with thick sticks. I now
interfered and laid hold of the woman who
was the most violent and who contended