

point of the larger is said to be a harbour. The passage between Gibby and the two islands may be about five miles broad. The N. W. point of Gibby bearing west six leagues, we could not see Patany Hook, on Gilolo.

1775.
April.

I imagine Gibby to be about four or five leagues long, and about twelve round; being narrow, and divided into two hills, with a low neck between. * From the more northerly hill, a long low point stretches toward Gilolo; and in the said hill appears a remarkable gap or cut, when it bears about N. half W. Off this N. W. end of Gibby, from the southward, appears also an island; behind which, as I was told by Tuan Buffora, whose family lived at Gibby, some French ships had lately lain, and got from Patany many nutmeg and clove plants, which they carried to their islands of Bourbon and Mauritius. † This person went off in the night, with the small corocoro that Tuan Hadjee had fitted up. I cannot help imagining he expected to be able to get ashore, and afterwards to overtake the vessel, as he left a slave on board, and his wearing apparel. Neither of my Europeans knew of his going off, until some little time after he was gone; and I did not choose to lie to for him, as the wind was then fresh and fair; besides that, hereabouts were said to be many Dutch cruifers.

At eight A. M. we saw low land, bearing N. E. Towards noon the wind came to the northward, with which I stood N. W. finding

* Plate VII.

† The French have since carried them to the islands Mahe or Sechelles; and some were even sent to the West Indies.

Tuan Buffora had, in conversation, informed me, that the east coast of Gilolo was better inhabited than the west. The west coast being more immediately under the eye of Dutch severity, the inhabitants possibly get to the eastward, to enjoy more freedom.