

*Discovery of a North-West Passage.*

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Ice was near, and we soon perceived a large Piece June. a Head of the *Dobbs*; whose People, on being hailed, stopped the Ship's Way, and the Piece swam clear, of a scraggy Form; the Colour White tinged with Azure, the Azure the more prevalent: At eleven saw more Ice, the Fog still continuing; about half an Hour after eleven Pieces of Ice again, which became more frequent, large Pieces first, then large and small Pieces swimming thick and near together, many of the large Pieces ten Yards over and thirty round: The small Pieces mostly white, but the large azure with an upper Coat or Rind of White, the Sea calm and perfectly smooth, though the Wind was freshened; the Water making a Roaring through Cavities wrought by it in the large Pieces; and a rushing Noise as it passes over, or aside of the small and low Pieces, dipping, as they swim, from their being impelled by the Wind, or from their Motion not being proportionably fast with that of the Current.

Upon Captain *Moor's* Desire, we altered our Course; soon after falling in with what is termed heavy Ice, consisting of many large and high Pieces, some equal in Height to the Ship's Deck, and some few higher. Being surrounded by Ice and passing in narrow Streights, between these Hills of White and Azure, the Roar and Rush of the Sea heard on all Parts, the Fog confining our View to a very narrow Distance, and presenting continually fresh Objects, although it could not

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