

Hudson's Streights; and on the East Coast of *Labrador*, from *Davis's Inlet* in 56° , in whatsoever Latitudes they lie, not possessed before the Grant by any of his Majesty's Subjects, or any other Christian Power.

This extensive Country and Trade, they have, under that pretended Right, and exorbitant Grant, locked up from all his Majesty's other *British* Subjects, for about 80 Years; and also all the Countries and Trade beyond it, that might have been discovered and improved during that Time, under Pretence of their exclusive Grant of Trade, tho' an illegal Monopoly, being without Act of Parliament; and the Navigation to those Countries is confined to three or four Ships, tho' capable of employing many Hundreds; and the whole Trade is engrossed into the Hands of Nine or Ten Persons, scarcely known by People in Trade, who are perpetual Directors, or rather Dictators, having bought up near nine 10ths of their pretended or imaginary Stock, never allowing it to come to publick Sale; and by that Means, as each has a Vote for every 100*l.* he has in Stock, the few others, who have any Shares in their Stock, have no legal Right of inspecting into their Books, or enquiring into their Management of the Trade; but must tamely submit, and accept of whatever Dividend is made to them, without having a Power to call them to Account for their Conduct.

In order to prevent the Publick, or Merchants in *Britain*, from enquiring into the Trade of those Countries, they conceal it as much as possible, and confine their Trade to a small Capital, their Exports not exceeding 3,600*l.* annually, at a Medium; and to discourage others from enquiring into it, or attempting to trade to, or navigate these Seas, they say and pretend, that the Countries adjoining *Hudson's Bay* are in so inhospitable a Climate, and so
excessively