

If any Ship belonging to His Majesty, etc. shall sail between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans beyond the 52d Degree, Commander, etc. shall receive a Reward of 20,000 l.

Northern Passage for Vessels by Sea, between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans: May it therefore please Your Majesty that it may be enacted; and be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That if any Ship or Vessel, Ships or Vessels, belonging to any of His Majesty's Subjects, or to His Majesty, shall find out and sail through any Passage by Sea, between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, in any Direction or Parallel of the Northern Hemisphere to the Northward of the fifty-second Degree of Northern Latitude, the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Ships, Vessel or Vessels, if belonging to any of His Majesty's Subjects, or the Commander or Commanders, Officers and Seamen of such Ship or Vessel, Ships or Vessels, if belonging to His Majesty, shall receive as a Reward for such Discovery the Sum of Twenty thousand Pounds.

or shall approach to within One Degree of the Northern Pole, shall receive a Reward of 5,000 l.

And whereas the Ships employed both in the Spitzbergen Seas, and in Davis's Streights, have frequent Opportunities of approaching the North Pole, though they have not Time, during the Course of One Summer, to penetrate into the Pacific Ocean: And whereas such Approaches may greatly tend to the Discovery of a Communication between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, as well as be attended with many Advantages both to Commerce and Science, be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Ship or Vessel, Ships or Vessels, shall approach to within One Degree of the Northern Pole, the Owner or Owners of such Ship or Vessel, Ships or Vessels, if belonging to any of His Majesty's Subjects, or the Commander or Commanders, Officers and Seamen, of such Ship or Vessel, Ships or Vessels, if belonging to His Majesty, so first approaching to within One Degree of the Northern Pole, his or their Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, shall be entitled to receive, and shall receive, as a Reward for such first Approach towards the Northern Pole, the Sum of Five thousand Pounds.