

That they have twice attempted to raise Corn, without Success. And being asked, What time that Corn was sown? he said, in *June*; but that the Ground is thawed a Foot deep in *May*, at which Time you may sow Corn: but that the Ground is so cold, it spoils the Seed: That the Frost returns in *August* or *September*, and he has known it set in the latter End of *October*; that Turnips and Peas are sown in *May*, and come to Perfection in *August* or *September*: And he does not know whether the Frost breaks sooner within Land or not; but at the Bottom of the Bay it breaks the third or fourth of *May*.

And being asked, If he was settled there, whether he thinks it would answer to sow Corn? he said, That every Chief has Liberty to do it, and it would certainly be very advantageous; that he can't give an Instance of Encouragement given by the Company to any one Man for such Improvement; nor does he know of any Person being discouraged from such an Undertaking.

That he never heard of a French Settlement up *Churchill* River, nor up *Seel* River; but as the latter lies at the Bottom of the Bay, at a great Distance from where the Witnesses resided, there might be such a thing and he not hear of it.

That there was a French Settlement in *Albany* River, which was soon destroyed by erecting *Henly* House, the French Settlement being no more than a Tent; that Trade has been carried on ever since at *Henly* House, which lies Two hundred Miles up the Country, during the Winter Season; and the War with *France* breaking out soon after, the Witness has heard no more of the French.

*Arthur Dobbs*, Esq; being examined as to the Information he had received from a *French Canadese Indian* (since deceased), and who was maintained at the Expence of the Admiralty, on a Prospect of his being of Service on the Discovery of a North-west Passage, informed your Committee, That the Whole of that Discourse is contained in Part of a Book printed for the Witness in the Year 1744, to which he desired Leave to refer.

And being asked, If that Part of the Book contained nothing but the Discourse with the Indian, without any Remarks or Observations? he said, It did not contain any Thing else but his Questions and the Answers of the Indian.

That the Method he used in taking down the said Discourse, was as follows:

He asked the Indian the Questions contained in that Narrative; to which he gave Answers in French, which the Witness translated into English, and reduced each Answer immediately into Writing.

That he did not read these Answers over to him; but to make Trial of his Veracity, he frequently repeated the same Questions, at the Distance of a Fortnight, and never could find the least Variation in his Account; but that he thinks he has not taken Notice of this Method in his Narrative: That the Witness omitted nothing in the Narrative which he thought material to the Knowledge of Trade, or of the Country; and that the Minutes which he took from the Mouth of this Indian, are printed, Word for Word, in the aforesaid Book, which the Witness himself carefully compared with his Minutes.

And being asked, If he could produce those original Minutes? he said, That he had destroyed them; not thinking it material to keep them after the Book was printed.

Then the said Book was produced to your Committee, and Part thereof, from Fol. 29, to Fol. 45, was read; to which (the said Book being annexed to this Report by way of Appendix No. II.) your Committee beg Leave to refer.

And being asked, What was the Character of this Indian? he said, He had a very good one in Town; and that Captain *Middleton* told him his Character in general was good; that he never heard any thing to the Prejudice of it, except that he was obliged to quit his own Country for carrying on a contraband Trade.

And being asked, How this Indian could make a Calculation of the Profits arising by the Fur Trade, or how it was possible he should use an Expression, which was set down in the Narrative, of gaining 2,000 per Cent.? he said, That he, the Witness, told him the Prices of Goods here; and that the Indian himself knew the Prices of Goods in his own Country, from the Comparison of which the Witness formed the Calculation which he explained to the Indian, who agreed that it was right. And being asked, If he desired the Indian to confine himself to his own Knowledge? he said, That all the Indian said was from his own Knowledge, except where it is mentioned otherwise in the Narrative; as in the Voyage to the Westward in the latter End of it, and in some other Places.

Captain *William Moore* acquainted your Committee, That he had been employed in *Hudson's Bay* from a Boy; that he went with Captain *Middleton* to discover a North-west Passage, and likewise with the last Adventurers on that Discovery.

And being required to inform your Committee what Treatment the late Discoverers received from the Company's Officers in *Hudson's Bay*? he said, That as soon as Mr. *James Isham*, the Governor of *Toronto* Fort (who sailed from *England* in Company with the Witness and the rest of the Discoverers, and parted from them three or four Days after they left the *Orkneys*), perceived their Ships coming from *Hayes's River*, he mann'd a Boat and took away the Buoys, and cut down the Beacon; by which Means the *Dobbs* Gally, which the Witness commanded, run aground, and the *California*, the other Ship in Company, was not then at Anchor.

That the next Day the Witness received a Letter from the Governor to advise him, out of regard for his own, and the Safety of the rest of the People with him, that they would not attempt that River with Ships, Vessels, or Boats; for he would do his utmost Endeavours to prevent them.

That at this Time the Witness, and the other Commander had not signified to the Governor that they were English Ships, no Letters or Messages having passed between them; and the Governor's Letter, which was brought on board by his Carpenter, and some others, was directed to the two Commanders of the Ships lying off the River's Mouth.

Upon the Receipt of this Letter, the Discoverers held a Council, and came to a Resolution to return an Answer that they made choice of that Place to winter in, it being too late to go to any other. This occasioned a second Letter from the Governor, advising the Adventurers rather to make choice of *Churchill* to winter at; and desiring and insisting that they should send him a proper Power, either from the Company, or the Government; or otherwise they should not be admitted to receive Shelter there. This Request the Adventurers complied with, and sent the Governor their Letters of Marque; after which they had no Molestation from the Governor: That the Commander of the other Ship and the Witness went up to see the Governor, and were employed several Days to look for a proper Harbour for their Ships; that the Governor supplied them with Wood, Lime, and Bricks, to build an House, where they lived during the Winter. He likewise furnished them with Beaver Coats for the Men, and what other Things they wanted; that he gave them a Leather Tent to make Shoes of, and in general treated them well, and in a friendly Manner.

That