

Fry was such; that I could plainly see to the Bottom, at the Depth of eleven Fathom, or sixty six Feet. Every Body knows, that Deepness, Transparency and Saltness, are inconsistent with the Notion of a Sea, filled with the Discharge of Rivers, melted Snow, and Rain; and as strongly argue a Communication with the Ocean, as any Thing can do. The second Reason arise from the strong Currents that set through it, and keep it clear from Ice, so that it is a settled and indisputed Fact, that the Northern Part of the Bay, is perfectly free and open, when the Southern is much embarrassed with Ice; or, in other Words, there is very little Ice to be met with in the Latitude of 64° . or 65° . tho' in the Latitude of 52° . and 53° . the Sea is much incumbered with it. Now whence these strong Currents should come, that set with such Rapidity through the Bay, unless from a Western Ocean, is inscrutable. The third Reason, and the last that I shall mention, is the Number of Whales, that are seen here more especially in the latter End of Summer; when it is very well known, that all that Kind of Fish retire into warmer Climates, and consequently it may be fairly presumed, that these resort hither for that Purpose; and if so, there must a Passage, and that not into a Northern, but a Western Ocean; for Instinct in those Animals, is an unerring Guide.

WE have now gone through the greatest Part of our Work, with as much Plainness and Perspicuity, as the Subject would permit: We have shewn, that there is the highest Probability, from the Climate, the Produce, and the Appearance of the Country, on the West Side of *Hudson's-Bay*; that, as it has Part of the *Atlantic* on one Side, it has also the *South-Sea* on the other: We have shewn from the Height of the Tides, that this is almost certain; and from the Time in which they happen, the Direction of them, and the Influence of the Winds upon them, that it is absolutely so, and that there is no accounting for these, but by allowing a Communication between the Waters in the *Welcome*, and those in the *South-Seas*, by a North West Passage. It remains only to shew where this Passage may be reasonably expected, and what Reasons can be assigned to incline our Belief, that this Passage, wherever it lies, is short, open, and commodious; but in explaining this, we must begin with the latter Part, because by that only, we can be directed to the former.

IN the first Place then, it seems highly probable, that this Passage is not very far to the Northward; because there is no mountainous Ice found in the *Welcome*, or in *Repulse-Bay*,

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