

often did in the Course of the said Expedition) this Deponent found the main Flood Tide to come from the Northward ; — from whence this Deponent is strongly induc'd to believe, that there is a Northwest Passage to the Western Ocean of *America*. — And this Deponent further saith, that in the Month of *August* 1746, it being found necessary to shelter the said Ships during the Winter Season in some Part of *Hudson's Bay*, in order the more effectually to prosecute the Discovery the next Season, *Elay's River* was chose for that Purpose, where the said *Hudson's Bay* Company had a Settlement call'd *York Fort*. — And this Deponent saith, that upon the said Ships attempting to enter the said River, one of the said Ships (*to wit*, the *Dobbs Galley*) ran a-ground upon the Shoals at the Entrance thereof. — And whilst the said Ship was in this dangerous Situation, and the other Ship (*to wit*, the *California*) not in Safety, the Governor of *York Fort* aforesaid, in order the more effectually to distress the said Ships, sent his Boat and Men to cut down the Beacon, and remove such other Marks as might have afforded any Assistance in relieving the Ships from their then dangerous Condition. — And this they persisted to do notwithstanding they were call'd out to whilst they were cutting down the said Beacon and other Marks of Pilotage, and desir'd to desist. — And this Deponent further saith, that the People who came in the said Boat acknowledg'd that the said Governor gave them Orders for what they did as aforesaid ; and that the said Governor before the giving of such Orders, knew that the said Ships were *English* Ships, and that they came upon the said Discovery. — And this Deponent further saith, that upon many other Occasions the said Governor, or the People at the said Fort by his Order, did many ill Offices, with a View, as this Deponent believes, to obstruct and discourage the Commanders