

To *John Bridgar*, Governor of *Port Nelson*.

May 15th, 1682.

WE having thought fit to make a Settlement in the River of *Port Nelson*, in *Hudson's Bay*, have chosen you out from amongst those who have formerly served our Company, as a Person whom we judge qualified for such a Charge; wherein we hope you will never give us Reason to think ourselves mistaken; but that you will behave yourself with that Prudence, Integrity, and Industry, that becomes you in so great a Trust, both for your own Reputation, and the Interest and Advantage of the Company.

In the first Place, upon your Arrival there, you are, with the Advice of Captain *Guilbam*, to choose out the most convenient Place for building a House and Fort, for your Safety and Accommodation; which when you have well done, you are to use your Diligence to penetrate into the Country, to make what Discoveries you can, and to get an Acquaintance and Commerce with the Indians thereabouts, which we hope in time may turn to Account, and answer the great Charge we shall and may be at in making this Settlement.

To *Henry Sargeant*, Esq.

April 27, 1683.

YOU are to choose out from amongst our Servants such as are best qualified with Strength of Body and the Country Language, to travel and to penetrate

into the Country, to draw down the Indians by fair and gentle Means to trade with us.

From *Henry Sargeant*.

*Charlton Island*, 13 Sept. 1683.

I Shall not be neglectful, as soon as I find any Man capable and willing for to send up into the Country with the Indians, to endeavour to penetrate into what the Country will and may produce, and to use their utmost in bringing down the Indians to our Factory;

but your Honours should give good Encouragement to those who undertake such extraordinary Service, or else I fear there will be but few that will embrace such Employment.

To *Henry Sargeant*, Esq.

22 May 1685.

WE perceive our Servants are unwilling to travel up into the Country, by reason of Danger, and want of Encouragement. The Danger we judge is not more now than formerly; and, for their Encouragement, we shall plentifully reward them when we find they deserve it by bringing down Indians to our Factories, of which you may assure them. We judge *Robert Sandford* a fit Person to travel, having the *Lingua*, and under-

standing the Trade of the Country; and upon a Promise of *Mr. Young* (one of our Adventurers), that he should travel; for which Reasons we have advanced his Wages to Thirty Pounds *per Annum*; and *William Arrington*, called in the Bay *Red-cap*, whom we have again entertained in our Service; as also *John Vincent*; both which we do also judge fit Persons for you to send up into the Country to bring down Trade.

From Governor *Sargeant*.

*Charlton Island*, Aug. 24, 1685.

MR. *Sandford* does not accept the Terms your Honours propose, but rather chooses to go home; neither he nor any of your Servants will travel up the Country,

altho' your Honours have earnestly desired it, and I pressed it upon those proposals you have hinted.

To Governor *Geyer* and Council at *Port Nelson*.

2d June 1688.

WE direct that the Boy *Henry Kelsey* be sent to *Churchill River* with *Thomas Savage*, because we are informed he is a very active Lad, delighting much in Indians Company, being never better pleased than when he is travelling amongst them; nevertheless would not have him too soon trusted amongst those unknown Natives,

without a Pledge from the Indians; cautioning our Men likewise, that they be not too secure when they shall come to a Treaty with any Number of this People, who have a distinguishing Character of being more treacherous than any other Indians in the Country.

To Governor *Geyer* and Council, at *Port Nelson*.

22 May 1690.

IF any Two or Three of our Servants shall shew their Forwardness to go upon new Discoveries, we require you to encourage the Undertaking, and, upon their good Success, to allow them such Advance of

Wages or Gratuity for their Pains, as you in your Discretion shall find convenient; which we will, upon your Intimation of it to us, allow and approve of.