

Summer, when they were all upon the Voyage, and my Affairs calling me to *Ireland*, I took no further Steps in it till Spring 1734-5, when Business call'd me again to *London*. I then considering that the Company had a Charter from the Crown, it might be improper to embark the Public in an Attempt to discover a Passage and Trade, which might perhaps redound only to the Advantage of the *Hudson's Bay* Company; I therefore desired Col. *Bladen* to allow me to peruse their Charter in the Plantation-Office, that I might know their Right and Power, and judge whether it was proper to embark them or the Public in the Attempt. This he readily complied with; and I, upon Perusal of the Charter, found by that they were invested with vast Powers and Privileges; and, as far as a Charter could grant it, with a Monopoly of all the Trade not only in the Bay, but in all the Countries they should discover thro' the Passage, not possess'd by any Christian Power, with the Property of all the Lands and Rights of Sovereignty, as making Peace or War, raising Troops and fitting out Ships of War, Forts, &c. to maintain their Possessions. These Powers and Privileges surprized me; and I thought if they were to have all the Profit of the Discovery, they were the proper Persons to apply to, to make the Discoveries. Upon this I again apply'd to Colonel *Bladen* for a Letter to Sir *Bibye Lake*, who I found was perpetual Governor of the Company, to introduce me to him, which he immediately gave me, and I carried my Manuscript to him; and told him, as I had Reason to believe there was a Passage, and found the whole Profit would redound to the Company upon a Discovery, I desired he would peruse my Reasons for it; and if he thought there was any Weight in them, that he would lay it before the Company, and hop'd they would send out some Sloops to attempt the Discovery.

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