

of our blessednes & yet will not perceiue the same. But I hope the eternall maiestie of God the sole disposer of all thinges will also make this to appeare in his good time.

Cornelius Nepos recyteth that when Quintus Metellus Cæsar was proconsull for the Romanes in Fraunce, the King of Sueuia gaue him certayne Incians, which sayling out of India for merchandize were by tempest driuen vpon the coastes of Germany, a matter very strange that Indians in the fury of stormes should ariue vpon that coast, it resteth now carefully to consider by what winde they were so driuen. if they had beene of any parte of Africa how could they escape the ylls of Cape Verd, or the ylls of Canaria, the coastes of Spayne, Fraunce, Ireland or England to arriue as they did, but it was neuer knowne that any the natyues of Afric or Ethiopia haue vsd shippings. Therefore they could not bee of that parte of the worlde, for in that distance sayling they would haue been starued if no other shore had giuen them relefe. And that they were not of America is verie manifest, for vpon all the Est parte of that continent, beeing now thereby discovered, it hath not at any time beene perceiued that those people were euer accustomed to any order of shipping, which appeareth by the arriual of Colon vpon those coastes, for they had his shipping in such wonderfull admiration that they supposed him & his companie to haue descended from heauen, so rare & strange a thing was shipping in their eyes. Therefore those Indians could not bee of America safely to bee driuen vpon the coastes of Germany, the distance & impedimentes well considered.

Then comming neither from Afric nor America, they must of necessitie come from Asia by the Noreast or Norwest passages. But it should seme that they came not by the Noreast to double the promontory Tabin, to bee forced through the Scithian Sea, & to haue good passage through the narrow straight of Noua Zemla & neuer to recouer any shore is a matter of great impossibilitie. Therefore it must needes be concluded that they came by the North partes of America through that discovered sea of 950 leagues, & that they were of those people which Francisco Vasques of Coronado discovered, all which premises considered there remaineth no more doubting but that the landes are disioyned & that there is a Nauigable passage by the Norwest, of God for vs alone ordained to our infinite happines & for the euer being glory of her maiestie, for then her stately seate of London should be the storehouse of Europe: the nurse of the world: & the renowne of Nations, in yelding all forraigne naturall benefits, by an easie rate, in short time returned vnto vs, & in the fulnes of their natural perfection: by natural participation through the world of all naturall & artificiall benefites, for want whereof at this present the most part liue distressed: & by the excellent comoditie of her seate, the mightines of her trade, with force of shipping thereby arising, & most abundant accesse & intercourse from all the Kingdomes of the worlde, then should the ydle hand bee scorned & plenty by industry in all this land should be proclaimed.

And therefore the passage prooued & the benefites to all most apparant, let vs no longer neglect our happines, but like Christians with willing & voluntary spirits labour without fainting for this so excellent a benefit.

To prooue by experience that the sea fryseth not.

HAuing sufficiently prooued that there is a passage without a land impediments to hinder the same, contrary to the first obiection, it nowe resteth that the other supposed impediments bee likewise answered. And firste as touching the frost & fresing of the seas, it is supposed that the frozen zone is not habitable, & seas innauigable by reason of the vehemencie of cold, by the diuine creator allotted to that part of the world, & we are drawn into that absurdity of this opinion by a coniectural reason of the sunnes far distance & long absence vnder the horizon of the greatest parte of that zone, whereby the working power of colde perfourmeth the fulnesse of his nature, not hauing any contrary disposition to hinder the same & when the Sunne by his presence should comfort that parte of the world, his beames are so far remoued from perpendicularitie by reason of his continuall neerenes to the horizon, as that the effectes thereof answeere not the violence of the winters cold. And therefore