

*Discovery of a North-West Passage.*

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without having his Hands cover'd, or putting them in his Mittins; and tho' there was no Thaw, yet the Frost was greatly abated. The Moderation of the Cold, the Pleasantness of the Weather, and the Abatement of the Frost, gave us great Hopes of an early Spring. The Quantity of Snow also promised a good Goose Season, as the Swamps would be very wet, and full of Water, from the melting of so much Snow; and where ever the Swamps are very wet and full of Water, there the Geese are sure to resort.

About the twenty-fifth were first seen a Species of Birds, near the Size of a Thrush. The Feathers of their Backs and Heads of a Crimson Colour, the Tails and Wings of a lightish Brown, with some white Feathers in the Wings, the Feathers of the Breast Crimson, and those of the Belly of a leaden Grey Colour. The Crimson Feathers at the Breast, of a brighter and more beautiful Colour, than those on the Head and Back. These Birds feed on the Poplar, and are called red Birds.

Upon the thirty-first, some of the People searching a Rabbet Snare, found only Part of a Rabbet, the other Part being eat by a wild Cat, whose Track was perceptible in the Snow; though it is rare that they come so near the Sea-side, keeping mostly in the Inland Country. This Creature is somewhat bigger than the *English* Fox,