

construed to confer upon the Hudson's Bay Company a Parliamentary sanction in regard to their doubtful charter, or which could give them the right of checking commercial enterprise from this quarter by the usual inland routes into any Territory which Traders from hence have been accustomed to occupy; although the same may nominally be included in the limits of the said Charter.

I had the honour of remarking to my Lord Hobart that an attempt had been made by one of the partners in the old Fur Company to penetrate in a more Southern direction than I did to the River Columbia in which he failed through ill health; a second attempt has been made by another partner of the same concern with no better success, owing to a mutiny of the men employed, arising as I judge from the want of an appropriate Talent for such an undertaking in the leader. I have been credibly informed that the Astronomer who went upon both expeditions declares positively that the object is not impracticable.

The communication to the Lieut. Governor through Mr. Ryland is clearly and decidedly the sentiments of the principal people of the new company of whom Mr. Richardson is one & a most valuable, active & respectable Magistrate of this City.

I have the honour to be with much respect,

Your Devoted and faithful Humble servant

ALEX. MACKENZIE.

(For enclosures, "John Richardson to H. W. Ryland" see Note E, No. 2 and "Presentment of the Grand Jury of Montreal," Note E, enclosure B.)