

considerable amount, being one of the most profitable trades our merchants deal in. But the garrisons and forts here seem not to be of a strength sufficient for holding out long against an attack from the French and their Indian allies in that neighbourhood. This bay is about 300 leagues wide from S. to N. but above 530, by reckoning from the bottom of James bay, in lat. 51 N. to that of Repulse bay in lat. 67. 10. N. Its breadth is unequal, being about 130 leagues where broadest; but it grows narrower both to the southward and northward, being not much above thirty-five leagues broad in some places. At the mouth of Hudson's bay is Resolution island, also Mansfield island. And in the streight are Charles island, Salisbury island, and Nottingham island. From Resolution island to Cape Diggs, at the entrance of the bay, is about 140 leagues in length. The land on both sides, namely, Labrador and North Main, are inhabited by savages, of which we have little or no knowledge. That part of the bay on the W. side, in about lat. 57. is called Button's bay, and the eastern part, from lat. 55. 15. to lat. 51. and the most southern part is called James's bay. The coast from Cape Henrietta Maria, in lat. 55. 15. where James's bay begins, to the bottom of the bay is about 100 leagues, and of much the same breadth all the way, being between fifty and sixty leagues over.

On the eastern shore, or Labrador coast, lie several islands, called the North sleepers, the West sleepers, Baker's dozen, Belchier's isles; and in James's bay are Bear island, Viner's island, Charlton island, Cape Hope island, &c. All the country from Button's bay S. and E. as far as Labrador, is called New South Wales.

The French pretend to have had possession of this bay