

In the Year 1682, Mr. *Bridger* embarked for Port *Nelson*, where a Factory was to be established and a Fort built; but before he arrived, Capt. *Benjamin Gillam* Master of a New-England Ship, and Son of Capt. *Gillam* Commander of the Prince *Rupert* then in the Company's Service, settled at that Factory; but had not been there above 14 Days, before Mr. *Raddison* and Capt. *Gooselier*, who had deserted the *English*, arrived from *Canada*.

The Company having dismissed them their Service, these two *Frenchmen* in Revenge procured some Merchants of *Canada* to undertake a Settlement there. *Gillam* was not strong enough to repel them, but he remained at Port *Nelson*, where 10 Days after *Raddison* and *Gooselier*'s Arrival came Mr. *Bridger*. The *French* no sooner perceived he was come, but they sent aboard his Ship immediately, and commanded him to be gone, for that Mr. *Raddison* and Capt. *Gooselier* had taken Possession of the Place for the *French* King their Master.

Mr. *Bridger* being warranted so to do by the Company's Commission unloaded some of his Goods, and with all Hands went to Work, in order to make a Settlement.

*Raddison* continued at Port *Nelson*, and Mr. *Bridger* and he became very intimate: Which Intimacy lasted from October 1682, to the February following, when *Raddison* seized *Bridger* and *Gillam* with all their People and Effects.

Having kept them some Months in a Sort of Imprisonment, about August the *French* put several of the Company's and *Gillam*'s People aboard a rotten Bark, and they were taken up by an *English* Ship near Cape *Henrietta Maria*. *Bridger* and *Gillam* they carried with them to *Canada*, where *Raddison* and *Gooselier* ran some of their Cargo ashore, intending to defraud their Employers.

After which they made their Escape and got into *France*. The Company having Notice of it writ to him, and he to the Company, promising if they would forgive the Injury he had done them, and employ him again at such a Salary, he would undertake to deliver the *French* whom he had left there till he came again to them, and seize all the Furs they had traded for, which would make them Satisfaction for the Wrongs he had done them. Accordingly they forgave him, employed him again, and he took Port *Nelson* from his Countrymen. But before his Arrival Capt. *John Abraham* had been there with Supplies of Stores; and finding Mr. *Bridger* was gone he staid himself, and was continued Governor by the Company in 1684.

John Abraham, Esq; Governor of Port Nelson.