

tion to the Two hundred and Fifteen above-mentioned: And we further make Oath, That the Detention in King George's Sound, by Don Joseph Stephen Martinez, was to the Ruin of the Voyage, and the irreparable Loss of the Associated Merchants.

That the said N. W. America was immediately equipped and manned by Don Joseph Stephen Martinez, with Spanish Officers and Seamen, with Mr. David Coolidge, First Mate of the Sloop Washington, of the United States of America, a Pilot; that she sailed from King George's Sound under the Spanish Flag on a trading Voyage; that in the Month of July she returned to the said Sound with a Cargo of Seventy-five Sea Otter Skins, or upwards, to the heavy Loss of the Associated Merchants.

That we do further make Oath, That Don Joseph Stephen Martinez did offer to Mr. Robert Hunter to go as Pilot to the Schooner, to shew the different Harbours where Skins were to be collected, and to trade along the Coast; and as an Inducement to accept of this Station, the said Don Joseph Stephen Martinez did offer unto the said Mr. Robert Hunter the Half of all Furs or Valuables collected during the Voyage; and the said Mr. Robert Hunter having acquired a considerable Knowledge of the Trade of the North West Coast of America, was pressed by D. J. S. Martinez to discover the Nature of the Commerce, and to enter into their Service. And we do further make Oath, That those Offers of Don Joseph Stephen Martinez were rejected with Indignation, as incompatible with our being in the Service of the Associated Merchants.

That the said Don Joseph Stephen Martinez did make use of all Manner of Threats and other unlawful Endeavours of Punishments and Imprisonments, &c. &c. &c. to induce the said Robert Hunter to make some Instrument of Writing, whereby the Right and Title to the said Schooner N. W. America, should be conveyed to the above Don Joseph Stephen Martinez; that all those Efforts and Threats were sustained without giving such an Instrument in Writing. And do further make Oath, That of the Two hundred and Fifteen Sea Otter Skins collected on Board the N. W. America, Twelve whereof were either lost or stolen on Board the Spanish Ship Princessa, which reduced the above Number of Two hundred and Fifteen to Two hundred and Three Skins, which were put on Board the Princess Royal.

That on or about the 14th of July, the Princess Royal of London, being in want of Wood and Water, and otherwise much distressed, did sail into King George's Sound, and did Anchor near to the Ships commanded by the said Don Joseph Stephen Martinez; and that Mr. William Hudson, Master of the above Vessel, finding the Schooner N. W. America, belonging to the Associated Merchants, with Cargo and Tackle, &c. seized by the Spaniards, did receive on Board the said Sloop Princess Royal, with the Leave and Licence of Don Joseph Stephen Martinez, the Number of Two hundred and Three prime Sea Otter Skins, on Account of the Associated Merchants; and the said Don Joseph Stephen Martinez having determined to Capture the Hull and Tackle of the N. W. America, but liberate the Cargo of the above Number of Two hundred and Three Sea Otter Skins.

That the above Sloop Princess Royal, William Hudson, Master, did put to Sea out of Nootka Sound, having on Board the above Cargo of the Associated Merchants, and after having signed a Receipt for the above Skins, which Receipt is attached to this Affidavit.

And we do further make Oath, that the Receipt attached to this Affidavit is the true and just Receipt received from William Hudson, Master of the Princess Royal.

And we do make Oath, That the Ship Argonaut, commanded by Lieutenant James Colnett, of His Majesty's Navy, and belonging to the Associated Merchants, did arrive off King George's Sound, on or about the 3d of July 1789; and that Don Joseph Stephen Martinez perceiving the said Vessel in the Offing, did man and equip a Launch with Seventy Men and upwards, and went himself, accompanied by Mr. Richard Howe, an American, and Supercargo of the Ships Columba and Washington, belonging to the United States of America, and then in King George's Sound, and went on Board the said Ship Argonaut, where he was received with every Friendship and Civility; that the Argonaut being come off a long Voyage, and otherwise much distressed, was enticed and decoyed into the said Sound by the Assurances, and resting on the Faith of Don Joseph Stephen Martinez, who promised him every Assistance and Friendship; and that the Ship Argonaut having in Consequence of this entered King George's Sound, was Boarded by armed Boats equipped from the Spanish Ships, and seized and made a Prize of, her Officers, Crew, and Cargo, in the Name of his Catholic Majesty, by Don Joseph Stephen Martinez; and that the Officers and Crew were immediately removed on Board the Spanish Ships, and the British Ship Argonaut was given up by Don Joseph Stephen Martinez to plunder, not only the Goods, &c. of the Associated Merchants, but the private Moveables and Valuables of the Officers and Crew.

That Don Joseph Stephen Martinez, with Priests and all due Formalities, hoisted the Flag of Spain on the British Ship Argonaut, and did threaten Captain James Colnett, that if he did not comply with all Orders, Injunctions, and other Demands, that they would immediately hang the said Captain James Colnett at the Yard Arm, which pressed so forcibly on the Mind of the said Colnett, that it deprived him of his Senses; that he made repeated