

' *Francis Smith*, being fully satisfied that there is no Prospect of any other Opening than from the Eastward by which the Ships came in, but being willing to satisfy Mr. *Edmond Thompson* the Surgeon, and Mr. *Henry Ellis* of the *Dobbs Galley*, who think that the Boats on their return (it blowing hard) did not keep near enough to the North Shore, which to them appeared double Land, and having an Opinion that the Entrance of this River or Strait is not sufficient to admit of the extraordinary Tides found here, but that there may be a Passage for them through the North Shore, seven or eight Leagues from hence, which they, Mr. *Thompson* and Mr. *Ellis*, conceive might escape Observation; it is therefore resolved, that the *Dobbs's* Schooner *the Resolution* shall immediately proceed, to acquire a Satisfaction as to those Parts.'

Signed by the COUNCIL.

AT this Council I took notice, that as there were a great variety of Circumstances, many of them very strong, and such as amounted almost to a Demonstration, of there being still some Passage to another Ocean lying to the Northward, in that which Captain *Middleton* called *Repulse Bay*; such as that the Tides were always higher, and the time of High Water sooner the farther we sailed Northward; as also the Saltness and Transparency of the Water in the *Welcome*, which was such, that one might see the Bottom at the Depth of twelve or fourteen Fathom; joined to the Numbers of Whales that were continually seen upon the Coasts, and the repeated Instances we had, that North West Winds, made abundantly the highest Tides; supported by the Assurances, that Captain *William Moore* had from time to time given me, that there was a Passage in *Repulse Bay*; I therefore proposed that the *Dobbs Galley* should depart immediately in search of it, while the *California* finished the Examination of this, and whatever Places remained not thoroughly searched to the Southward. This was strenuously opposed by some, who alledged, that we had no Instructions to go thither, nor were warranted to separate our Ships, that several of the People in the *California*, and some of our own, were much indisposed, and in a Manner incapable of staying longer in these Seas; and lastly, that the Season was rather too far advanced to proceed again to the Northward. To all these Objections I replied in the best Manner I could, but with no Effect, for upon the Question's being put, the Proposition I had made was rejected by a Majority,