

and followed himself in a vessel called the Nootka, for Prince William's Sound. The Sea Otter was lost, but the Nootka wintered there, and opened a trade with the natives.— He proceeded to China with his furs, and in January 1788, Mr. Mears, in conjunction with other British traders, purchased two other vessels, the Felice and Iphigenia. With these two he proceeded from China to the port of Nootka. On his arrival he purchased from the Chief of the district a spot of ground, whereon he built a house for the more convenient pursuit of his trade, and hoisted the British colours. He built a vessel there, which he called the North-West America, and having traded along the coast within the limits of 60° and $40^{\circ} 30'$ North, he made formal treaties with the Chiefs of several districts, for free and exclusive trade with the natives; and he returned to China with the Felice, leaving the other vessels to winter at the Sandwich Islands. In China he found Mr. John Cadman Etches, who had also come from a trading voyage to the North-West Coast of America, under licences granted to him and Co. by the East India and South Sea Companies. They entered into co-partnery, and having fitted out two vessels, the Princess Royal and Argonaut, and equipped them