

To the RIGHT HONOURABLE
 The Lords of a Committee of
 His MAJESTY's most Honourable Privy Council.

May it please your LORDSHIPS,

IN humble Obedience to your Lordship's Order in Council of the 4th of *February* last, representing, That by an Order in Council, bearing Date the 26th Day of *January* last, there was referred to your Lordships, the humble Petition of *Arthur Dobbs*, Esq; and the rest of the Committee, appointed by the Subscribers, for finding out a Passage to the Western and Southern Ocean of *America*, for themselves and the other Adventurers; and that your Lordships having taken the said Petition into Consideration, were pleased to refer the same to us, to consider thereof, and report our Opinion thereupon to your Lordships.

Which Petition set forth, that the Petitioners in the Year 1746 did, at their own Expence and Charges, fit out two Ships, upon an Expedition in search of the North-west Passage to the Western and Southern Ocean of *America*, in order to extend the Trade, and increase the Wealth and Power of *Great Britain*, by finding out new Countries and Nations to trade with, as well in the Great North-western