Letter from

ob. 18, 1739. e first Opporr safe Arrival, or the Respect my Departure. have feen you find our Prehan ever, and ation about the convenient Seaf Men of War take almost all on, and feveral ng, I should not mand of one of Behalf, if you great a Favour, agements. I am wigation on the ain, having been I engaged with ras in leveral Letnne's War at my

facob Ackworth,
r Brothers of the
e of them would
ded I should have
d think it proper
b' I have the Ho
ince with yourself,
dom of this Adto happen opportunely

tunely to my Advantage; and if I should have the good Fortune to succeed, might facilitate my being employed hereafter when it may be thought proper to undertake the Discovery. If you should think fit to do me the Honour of your Recommendation to any of the Lords of the Admiralty, or others, on this Occasion, my future Behaviour (I hope) will shew me not altogether unworthy of so high a Trust, nor ungrateful to my Benefactor.

I was this Voyage at Churchill Factory, where Mr. Norton is Governor. He was along with Scroggs in 1722, and remembers very well that when they came to an Anchor in the Welcome, near the Latitude 65° they had twelve Fathoms at High-water, and but feven at Low-water; and he feems confident, from a View that he took from a Promontary ashore, that there must be a clear Passage; the Land is very high, and falls off to the Southward of the West. This Year some of the Natives, who came down to trade at Churchill, and had never been before at any of our English Settlements, informed him they frequently traded with Europeans on the West Side of America, near the Latitude of Churchill by their Account, which feems to confirm that the two Seas must unite. I remain

Your most obedient bumble Servant,

Christ. Middleton.

I answered this the 30th, and inclosed to him Letters of Recommendation to Sir Robert Walpole, Lord Conway, and Sir Charles Wager, of which I need only give a Copy of what I wrote to Sir Charles Wager, viz.

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