

leave to submit a few leading facts respecting that settlement, and this flagrant depredation by order of the Spanish court. Your Majesty, and the public may give me full credit both for the accuracy and authenticity of the following statement :

In 1785 a plan was submitted to your Majesty's ministry by Mr. Richard Cadman Etches, a merchant of the city of London, for prosecuting and converting to national utility the discoveries of the late Captain Cook, and for the establishing a regular and reciprocal system of commerce between Great Britain, the North-west coast of America, the Japanese, Kureil, and Jessio islands, and the coast of Asia, Corea, and China ; the plan was warmly applauded and patronised by the ministry, by Sir Joseph Banks, Sir John Dick, and many other personages of rank and acknowledged abilities, who rendered Mr. Etches every assistance in digesting and maturing the principal outlines of the undertaking. Accordingly two vessels, the King George, Captain Nathaniel Portlock, and the