

to him tendered shall return the same to the said Consignee or Conductor, indorsed with his Visa & Signature, under the seal of the Company, to serve as a passport, producible at every, but not questionable by any other station of the Company, commonly called Trading Houses, interiorly or exteriorly by any Governor or other officer or servant of the Company within the limits of their jurisdiction.

4.

To grant these Licences to a Company of British Merchants, to be established in London under the name of "The Fishery & Fur Company" which Company for the purpose of combining the Fishery in the Pacific with the Fur Trade of the Interior from the East to the West Coasts of the Continent of North America, would at once equip Whalers in England, & by means of the establishments already made and in activity, at Montreal in the East & advanced posts & Trading Houses in the Interior towards the West Coast to which they might be extended & where other establishments to be made at King George Sound Nootka Island, under the protection of the supreme Government; & on the River Columbia and at *Sea Otter Harbour*, under the protection of the subordinate Government of those places would open & Establish a Commercial Communication, through the Continent of North America between the Atlantic & Pacific Oceans, to the incalculable advantage & furtherance both of the Pacific Fishery & American Fur Trade of Great Britain, in part directly & in part indirectly through the Channel of the possessions & Factories of the East India Company in China &c., it being perfectly understood, that none of these Maritime or inland Establishments shall be made on territory in the possession of any other European Nation, nor within the limits either of the United States of North America or of the Hudson's Bay Company.

4.

There are at present, *vide* Mackenzie's Voyages, two Companies at Montreal, engaged in the North American Fur Trade, both of which are chiefly composed of men, who by personal exertions, no less hazardous than laborious & persevering, have contributed to the extension of it into formerly unknown parts; and who, if not the only men able to extend it to the Pacific, are at least the most likely to succeed, as the best qualified to undertake it. These Companies have not heretofore had any idea of embarking in the Pacific Fishery, but if they should succeed in combining the Fur Trade of the East with that of the West they would find it highly beneficial to combine the latter, if not both, with the Whale Fishery, and in so far as they may not be possessed of a Capital sufficient for carrying on both the Fishery & Fur Trade, they would be at no loss for Partners in London who would raise the deficiency.

The Whalers might carry out from England all the British articles Saleable or rather barterable for the furs and other Products of America, & bring back such part of the latter as would best suit the British Market; while other vessels of such a size & construction as may be found best adapted might be employed to carry the samples to Canton & such other of the Settlements of the East India Company, as offer the best Market, in the way either of Sale or Barter.

But as it is obvious that the two Companies already embarked in the Fur Trade from Montreal, including their several connections in London, must find their interest in coalescing, may that the great national object in view, in the first instance, if not wholly unattainable without, will at least be best attainable through, a voluntary connection & consolidation of the two Companies into one for such a number of years & on