

August. belonging to the *Dobbs*, set out to search for a Channel through the Shoals or Flats to Port *Nelson* River, and to return by the next Tide. The two Captains went up to the Factory, where the *Governor* declared, that the Ships should not come above the Factory, and that if they attempted it, he would fire at them; but that the Boats might. Capt. *Smith* defied him, and told him, that if he should fire at his Ship he would return it: And the *Governor* being asked as to his giving his Advice as to a proper Place to winter in, agreeable to his Letter, said, he must be excused; the *Governor* looking on it as a certain Consequence, that if the Ships came above the Factory, they would intercept his Trade, the major Part of which would be come down that River before the Ships could get out; but, as already mentioned, Capt. *Smith* had no Thoughts at that Time but of Wintering in Port *Nelson*, so not of going above the Factory; but would not be prevented by the *Governor* if he thought it necessary.

The Boats returned from the Search that Evening, those in them giving an Account that there was a Channel through the Flats, though not a great Depth of Water, yet a Sufficiency, and a fine Channel when in Port *Nelson* River. Capt. *Moor* and Capt. *Smith* set out the next Morning, with both Ships Long-Boats and Pinnaces, to take a better Survey of such Channel, and find a Harbour on the North Side of Port *Nelson* River, where