

a ship, which had been built at Calcutta, and called her The Argonaut.

That the Prince of Wales having been chartered to load teas for the East-India Company, soon after returned to England, and the Princess Royal and Argonaut were ordered by your Memorialist to sail for the coast of America, under the command of Mr. James Colnett, to whom the charge of all the concerns of the Company on that coast had been committed.

Mr. Colnett was directed to fix his residence at Nootka Sound, and, with that view, to erect a substantial house on the spot which your Memorialist had purchased in the preceding year, as will appear by a copy of his instructions hereunto annexed.

That the Princess Royal and Argonaut, loaded with stores and provisions of all descriptions, with articles estimated to be sufficient for the trade for three years, and a vessel on board in frame, of about 30 tons burthen, left China accordingly in the months of April and May 1789. They had also on board, in addition to their crews, several artificers of different professions, and near 70 Chinese, who intended to become settlers on the American coast, in the service, and under the protection of the associated Company.

That on the 24th of April 1789, the Iphigenia returned to Nootka Sound, and that the North-West America reached that place a few days after; that they found, on their arrival in that Port, two American vessels, which had wintered there, one of them was called the Columbia, the other the Washington; that on the 29th of the same month, the North-West America was dispatched to the Northward to trade, and also to explore the Archipelago of St. Lazarus.

That on the 6th of May, the Iphigenia being then at anchor in Nootka Sound, a Spanish ship of war, called the Princessa, commanded by Don Estwan Joseph Martinez, mounting 26 guns, which had sailed from the port of San Blas, in the Province of Mexico, anchored in Nootka Sound, and was joined on the 13th by a Spanish Snow of 16 guns, called the San Carlos, which vessel had also sailed from the Port of San Blas, loaded with cannon and other warlike stores.

That