

They informed us, that the Nation of the *Assenipoulaes*, who lye North East from the *Iffati*, was not above six or seven Days Journey from us; that none of the Nations within their Knowledge, who lye to the West or North West of them, had any great Lakes about their Countries, which wery large, but only Rivers, which coming from the North run cross the Countries of their Neighbouring Nations, which border on the Confines on the Side of the great Lake; which, in their Language is the same as Sea. They farther assured us, that there were very few Forests in the Countries, through which they pass'd in their way hither; insomuch, that now and then they were so put to it for Fewel, that they were forc'd to make Fire of Bulls Dung to boil their Victuals. All these Circumstances make it appear, that whatever Efforts have been made for many Years past by the *English* and *Dutch*, the two Nations in the World who are the greatest Navigators, to find out a Passage thro' the Frozen Sea to *China*, and *Japan*, they have not yet been able to effect it. But by the help of my Discovery, and the Assistance of God, I do not doubt but a Passage may still be found, and that an easy one too. For Example, One may be Transported into the Pacifick Sea by Rivers, which are large, and capable of carrying great Vessels; and from thence it is easy to go to *China* and *Japan*, without crossing the Equinoctial Line; and in