

# V O Y A G E

TO

## KING GEORGE'S SOUND.

Several voyages were undertaken from Canton and Bombay to Nootka Sound, the American mart for peltry, at an early period after the discovery of that coast; and in May 1785, some English merchants entered into a commercial partnership, under the title of the King George's Sound Company, for carrying on a fur trade from the western coast of America to China.

Having obtained licences from the South Sea and East India Companies, they purchased two ships, one of three hundred and twenty, and the other of two hundred tons burthen, and gave the command of the larger vessel, which was named the King George, to Mr. Nathaniel Portlock; and of the other, called the Queen Charlotte, to Mr. George Dixon. Both those gentlemen had sailed with Captain Cook, and were therefore deemed most proper to conduct in this adventure, which required no common knowledge and experience. The merchants were all men of competent abilities, and Mr. Evans and Mr. Woodcock, two pupils from the mathematical school in Christ's Hospital, were engaged as draughtsmen.

Having got most of their stores on board, they proceeded down the coast, and James

PROVINCIAL LIBRARY  
VICTORIA, B. C.