

to bring down the northern Indians to trade at Churchill, where the Company the year before had fixed a factory; and Norton was sent by land for the same purpose, and to enquire about the mine: for it is not probable that they would send out Kelsey and Hancock the same year with Knight, unless they had given them instructions to discover in concert with him, which they did not. The last two were the same sloop under Kelsey, who sailed 26th June, 1721, upon the same account as before, and returned the 2d of September; and with her, her old consort the Success then under Napper, who was lost four days after in the ice near Churchill. So that these additional sloops seem to be inserted only to make an ostentatious and false shew of their great zeal for the discovery of a north-west passage.

N^o. XXV contains *orders given by the Hudson's-Bay Company to their present chief factors in the Bay, so far as they relate to the government of the factories.*

I HAVE little to observe upon these orders, and believe that they may be proper enough for the security of their forts in time of war, considering how very weak they are, and what a small number of men there is to defend them. There is one piece of an instruction indeed that does them honour, which they first mention in their letter to Isbester at Albany in 1745, and repeat it to him in 1746, and also to Pelgrim at Prince of Wales's-fort in 1747, and to Newton at York-fort in 1748, *recommending sobriety to them and their servants, that they may be capable of making a vigorous defence if attacked.* But there is a paragraph addressed to captain John Newton personally, annexed to the instructions sent jointly to him and council, 5th May, 1748, which contains