

Martinez on Board her, principally, as your Memorialist understands, for the Purpose of assisting her in her Navigation to China, the greatest Part of her own Crew, as well as of her Provisions, having been previously put on Board the *Washington*, in order that she might be enabled to continue on the Coast.

That the *Columbia* having reduced her Provisions considerably from the Supplies she had spared to her Consort, was furnished from the *Argonaut*, by Order of Don Martinez, with what was necessary for her Voyage, said to be intended however for the Supply of the Crew of the *N. W. America*; that previous to the Departure of the *Columbia*, 96 Skins were also put on Board her, as appears by the Paper hereunto annexed, N<sup>o</sup> 6, to defray the Wages of the Officers and Crew of the *N. W. America*, under a Supposition that their late Employers would be unable to liquidate their Demands, first deducting, however, 30 per Cent. from the Sales which Don Martinez had agreed should be paid for the Freight on the said Skins to the American Commanders.

That the *Columbia* thus supplied left Nootka Sound accordingly, and proceeded to the Southward; that a few Days after she entered Port Cox, where she was joined by her Consort the *Washington*, from whom she received a considerable Number of Skins, conceived to be the whole (excepting the 96 before-mentioned) which had been collected by the Americans and Spaniards, as well as by the British Traders, and with which, after sparing a further Quantity of Provisions to the *Washington*, the *Columbia* proceeded to China, where she arrived on the 2d of November, and landed the Crew of the *North West America*.

That the Crew of the *North West America*, previous to their leaving Nootka Sound in the *Columbia*, saw the *Argonaut* proceed, as a Prize, to San Blas; and that her Officers and Men, who were Europeans, were put on Board her as Prisoners; and that the *Prince's Royal* was shortly to follow with her Crew in Confinement in the same Manner. The *Washington*, on joining the *Columbia* in Port Cox, gave information that the *Prince's Royal* had also sailed for San Blas.

That Don Martinez had thought fit however to detain the Chinese, and had compelled them to enter into the Service of Spain; and that on the Departure of the *Columbia*, they were employed in the Mines, which had then been opened on the Lands which your Memorialist had purchased.

Your Memorialist begs leave to annex a Deposition of the Officers and Crew of the *N. W. America*, together with an Extract of the Journal of the *Ipbigenia*, and also some Letters which he has received from Mr. Duffin, Second Officer of the *Argonaut*, which Papers will serve to throw considerable Lights on the several Transactions alluded to in this Memorial: He also has subjoined a Statement of the actual as well as the probable Losses which he and his Associates have sustained from the unwarrantable and unjustifiable Proceedings of Don Martinez, in open Violation of the Treaty of Peace subsisting between this Country and the Court of Spain, and at Times and in Situations where, according to the common Laws of Hospitality, they might have expected a different Conduct.

Your Memorialist therefore most humbly begs leave to submit the Case of himself and his Associates to the Consideration of Government, in full Confidence that the proper and necessary Measures will be taken to obtain that Redress, which he and his Associates have, as British Subjects, a right to expect.

London 30th April 1790.

(Signed) JOHN MEARS.

Your Memorialist also begs leave to annex an Acknowledgment given by Don Martinez, of his having obtained possession of the *North West America*. N<sup>o</sup> 11.

J. M.