

N°. IX.

SIR,

London, Feb. 27, 1737.

I Am honoured with your Letter of the 22d Instant, wherein you are so good as to communicate to me Sir *Bibye Lake's* Letter and your Answer, for which Favour I am very much obliged to you. The Remarks you make on the Proceedings and Conduct of the Persons sent last Year to make the Discovery are exceedingly just and proper; and had they been really in earnest, as well as duly qualified to undertake it, they had certainly a fine Opportunity of furnishing better Observations and prosecuting their Voyage farther and to more Advantage than any that went before them.

What the Company intend to do hereafter I am entirely a Stranger to, as they keep every Thing a Secret; and from some Questions I have been lately asked, I found they seemed suspicious of my corresponding with you. To remove which Jealousy, I returned such Answers as perhaps I should not have done had I been independant of them. I return you many Thanks for the good Opinion you are pleased to entertain of me, and shall be glad of all Opportunities to testify with how much Respect I am, Sir,

*Your most obedient,**And obliged humble Servant,*

Christ. Middleton.

On the 20th of February I wrote Letters to Sir C. Wager, Mr. W. and Colonel Bladen, acquainting them with the Usage I had received from the Company, notwithstanding the Prospect there was of Success, had they prosecuted it in earnest, letting Sir Charles know that now I had no other Resource but