

late in the summer, and should have gotten into the open Northern Ocean, or Icy Sea, where he would be navigating in the latitude of 78 to 80, the days would shorten on him apace, Westerly winds (which prevail very much towards autumn) might retard him, winter in those parts would be coming on, and possibly he might be encumbered and stopped by the ice, ere he should get to the Westward of Nova Zembla. This I fear has been the case, provided it has pleased God to preserve our circumnavigator, and that he actually attempted the North - East passage, and cleared the said Straits last summer. On this conjecture, we may suppose further, that he has been, and is still, wintering in some gulph or harbour of Siberia ; or perhaps in Nova Zembla, as the renowned William Barentz and his faithful crew did Anno 1596. And this would be the more probable,