

Discovery of a North-West Passage.

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" thick Weather, and hard Gales of Wind, so August.
" that we could not attempt it a second Time
" this Season, with any hopes of Success, and
" finding ourselves in Sight of *Brook Cobham*
" which we judged to be a very favourable
" Place to try the true Knowledge of the Tides,
" we therefore resolved to send thither the two
" Long-Boats," the Lieutenant of each Ship
was to have the Command of the Boat belonging
to his respective Ship, and to set out with all convenient Expedition for the Western Part of the Island, there to determine from whence the Tide flowed, the Course, Height, Velocity of the Tide, and Time of high Water; and if a Flood Tide came from the Westward, and any Opening, they were to repair to that Place, to try the Tide there, if safely they could; they were to search for a secure Harbour, should it be necessary to bring the Ships to an Anchor for a further Search. In case of extraordinary bad Weather the Boats were to repair Aboard, on Signals made, and Signals were fixed on for the Boats repairing Aboard, and for other Purposes, which the Lieutenants were to observe, and an Account of them was given in Writing for that Purpose.

It appears from Part of this Act of Council, which mentions the Opening, the Tide from the Westward, and the Harbours, that there was a particular View therein, to the Discoveries made by Lieutenant *Rankin*, when with Captain *Middleton* in 1742. Lieutenant *Rankin* having discovered