

*Discovery of a North-West Passage.*

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They also decoy the Ducks to shoot them, but May that is done by whistling. 1747.

The Factories have a great Dependance upon the Geese for their Subsistence; when the Season is approaching, they send their Servants out in several Parties to Places where the Geese most frequent: A Number of *Indians* also going with each Party, who come down to be hired for that Purpose. These Servants stay out from the Factory all the Season; and being provided with Salt and Casks, shall in some favourable Years, salt up three or four thousand Geese.

The Tides now began to be regular, and the Freshes or Landwaters, the Snow being mostly dissolved, very much abated, so that we had not above three Feet Water in the Creek at low Water: Our Expectation was, that the next Spring Tides, which would be on the twenty-eighth, would float the Ships out; therefore not to lose that Opportunity, the Interim, between the twentieth and twenty-eighth was filled, in sending every thing down, that the Boats could carry to lighten the Ship; so that she might have nothing more in her than just to make her stand: For was the Opportunity of these Springs missed, as it was the Season of the Year for the Tides to fall off, it might be the latter End of *July* or *August* before we should have a Tide high enough to float us out, which would be the

Destruction