

That the Climate is much warmer at *Henly House* than at *Aibany*; but they broke no Ground there, and consequently he can give no Account of the Frost; that they carried up nothing but Utensils, and met with but few Falls of Water, which they towed their Boats up; that they were forced to row almost all Day long, the Stream being too rapid for Boats to sail, even in a fresh Gale; that 'tis impossible to tow the Boats with Horses, on account of the Badness of the Ground; but one Man tows a Canoe of 24 or 25 Feet long, and 4 Feet wide, which draws about 8 Inches Water, and will carry a great Weight; that the Falls in *Moose River* forced them to take out their Goods; that the Country about *Henly House* is very high, but warmer than the Coast, that the Trees there are all white Fir, but do not produce Turpentine, nor are they fit for Masts; that he never saw any Ore, but has seen Copper on the Indians Writs, which they told him they brought from the Northward; that there is no Grass at *Churchill*, except in Places up the River.

That he has seen large Tracts of Land, which in his Opinion, would bear Corn, if cultivated, the Climate being much warmer within Land.

Being examined as to the Treatment of the Company's Servants; he said, That the last Year he was there, they were starved, though there were Victuals enough in the Store-house; that there are Orders stuck up in the Factories, but he does not remember whether any Punishment, such as Lashing or Blows, are mentioned in those Orders; that the Governor beat one Man with his Cane for going to light his Pipe in an Indian Tent; and that Governor *Duffell* whipp'd Two Men, the one for trading for a Deer Skin, and the other for threatening to beat a young Fellow; that the first of these was tried on the Evidence of the Doctor; but he has heard the Governor say, he would whip a Man without Trial; and that the severest Punishment is a Dozen of Lashes.

That one Man, whose Name was *Pilgrim*, died for want of Victuals, though there were Provisions enough in the Factory, and he had the same Allowance as the rest.

Being asked, What Quantity of Provisions are generally in the Factory? he said, A Year or a Year and a Half's Provisions.

That the Servants never applied for Liberty to hunt, when in want of Provisions; and when this Man was starved, the Provision was not short.

And being asked, What the Allowance was? he said, They had Six Pounds of Flour a Week; that one Day they had Three Quarters of a Goose (which Geese weigh a Pound, a Pound and a Half, and some Geese Three or Four Pounds,) together with half a Pint of Pease, and small Beer, when in the Factory, and Water when up in the Woods, with what Brandy the Governor pleases to give them; that, another Day, they had Three Partridges, of the same Size as ours, with Peas, as aforesaid; the Cheese and Butter is a Day's Allowance by itself, and they have no Brandy up in the Woods; that when a Goose is boiled, it will not weigh a Pound; and they make no Difference as to the Size.

And being asked, How many Partridges he thinks would be sufficient for a Man a Day? he said, He thought, Four.

That he found no Fault with his Allowance at *Moose River*, where the Geese are better than at *Churchill*; and the First Year he was at *Churchill*, they used to have Two Pieces of Beef or Pork extraordinary in a Week; but upon the Arrival of a new Governor that was taken off, their Allowance being fixed by the Governor.

Being asked, If he had never petitioned the Company to go back in their Service? he said, That the

Company stopped Five Pounds out of his Wages, for coming back a Year too soon.

That he was advised by a Gentleman of the City, who did not belong to the Company, that the only Way to get his Money was, to petition their Honours; and the Gentlemen wrote a Petition accordingly, which the Witness copied; that his Intention in that Petition was to get his Money; and that he never designed to go again.

And the Petition being produced and read, the Witness added,

That he wrote a Letter to the Company about Two Years ago, which he wished they would produce also.

Mr. *Matthew Gwynne*, being examined, informed your Committee, That he had been twice at *Hudson's Bay*; and that the Product of the Country is chiefly Furs; that he brought some Ore over to *England*, which he got out of a Sloop which the Company sent to the *Labrador Coast*; that the Person from whom he had the Ore, told him he took it from the Surface of the Earth; that Mr. *Sedgwick*, a Surgeon, tried it, and said it was Lead Ore, and had a great deal of Silver in it; and that the Lead, only, was worth Ten or Twelve Pounds a Ton.

That the Person from whom he received the Ore is yet alive, as the Witness believes, having received a Letter from him about Six Months ago; and Mr. *Sedgwick*, and several Merchants, proposed to make a Subscription of Five hundred Pounds each, to send a Sloop to *Davis's Inlet*, and, if they failed there, to go through *Hudson's Straights* to the new-discovered Sea, where they thought that Ore was found; and there to see what they could get by Trade, or this Metal; that the Witness proposed to go through the Straights, and thought every Thing had been ready for the Undertaking; but it was soon after dropped.

That the Company sent Two Sloops to the *Labrador Coast*; the Name of the Master of the one was *Mitchell*, and the other *Longden*.

That the Witness was aboard a Ship in *Hudson's Bay* when those Two Sloops returned, and the Sloops came to that Ship before they went to the Governor; that one of the Mariners aboard one of the Sloops gave the Witness the Ore, and he was informed there was a Cask of it aboard; and the Person who gave it him told him, they brought it from *Labrador*, which he believes to be true; but can't swear it, as he did not take it up there himself.

That he can't say he understands Lead Ore, nor was he present at the Assay made by Mr. *Sedgwick*.

Mr. *Edward Thompson*, who had been Three Years at *Moose River* in the Company's Service as Surgeon, being required to give an Account of the Commodities, Soil, and Climate, there, said: That the chief Commodities are, Furs of Beavers, Martens, Foxes, and Bears; that there might be Whalebone and Oil brought from thence; that some Lead Ore was brought from *Labrador* by one *Banister*, who came home last Year, of which the Witness saw a Piece about the Bigness of his Fist: And the Witness said, he had seen Copper in *Hudson's Bay*: That there are white Pine-trees 40 Inches Diameter, and likewise Fish; that he has been on the Western Continent about 50 or 60 Miles Inland, and thinks the Soil and Climate of *Moose River* as proper for producing Beans, Peas, and Barley, as it is in several Parts in *Yorkshire*; that they dig and sow Peas in the Middle of *May*, when they can dig a Foot and a Half, or Two Feet, deep; but if you dig deep, even in *August*, the Frost is in the Ground: And that he apprehends the Ground about *Moose River* is proper for Hemp and Flax.

That he has seen better Barley and Oats grow at *Moose*