

sions of a War were blown over, that they would then give proper Directions to their Sloops to proceed upon the Discovery: This he promised me, and so we parted.

After having fix'd this, I thought it would be proper to find out as much as I could of the Attempt made by *Barlow*, and whether any later Discoveries had been made in the Bay, which, apprehending that the Company were in earnest in attempting the Passage, since it would be so much to their Honour and Profit, I thought might be easily and properly done by applying to some of their Captains who had used the Trade, and recollecting that I had read in the Transactions of the Royal Society, some Remarks upon the Variation of the Needle, &c. in *Hudson's Bay*, communicated by one Capt. *Middleton*, who commanded one of their Ships; it naturally occurred to me, that he would be a proper Person to be acquainted with, in order to get a just Information of the Bay and late Attempts made there, which I was quite a Stranger to, except what had been mentioned to me by Sir *Bibye Lake* and *Jones*: I therefore desired Mr. *Allan*, a Merchant in the City, a Friend of mine, to enquire where he might be found, and finding the Coffee-house he frequented was a Coffee-house, in *Thames-street*, near *Billingsgate*, I went with Mr. *Allan*, and met him there.—Upon Mr. *Allan's* telling him who I was, and the Reason of my desiring to be acquainted with him; I told him what Hopes I had of a Passage through *Hudson's Bay* to the Western Ocean, and what Steps I had taken towards the Discovery, by engaging the Company to undertake it, and how far they had promised me; and should be pleased if he would communicate to me what he knew in relation to it, particularly as to *Barlow's* Attempt, and the Sloop which went to enquire after him; upon this he opened himself freely