

*Discovery of a North-West Passage.*

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August.

Morning a Boat would be sent up. This Conversation was, while the two Men on Shore on the Pile of Stones were busy in cutting down the Beacon; and when they finished their Work, they returned to the Boat, and rowed away; having been first desired to call aboard the Ship, which they excused themselves from, with saying they had not Time.

We learned from them, that the *Hudson's Bay* Ships, bound for that Fort, had been for some Days gone for *England*: That the *Hudson's Bay* Ships, whom we had parted with on the seventeenth of *June* at Night, had not entered the Streights until nine Days after us, but had been more fortunate in passing them, having never made fast to Ice but once, that somewhere about *Mansell* Island. Capt. *Smith's* Boat returned Aboard with the Beacon in Tow, being a fine straight Piece of Pine, with a good Brush or Broom at the End.

We had the Satisfaction of hearing that Night of the *Dobbs* being safe, being on a hard Ground and upright, though it was dry all about her; they had been staving the Water aboard her, in order to lighten her aft, not doubting to get off the next Tide. Capt. *Smith* also promised to hoist two Lights at his Fore-top-sail Yard-arm, one at each Extreme, as a Direction for her in the Night.

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