

4th. That the great Slave Lake is the most Northerly large piece of water before you arrive at the Northern Ocean, and that the River which rises from that Lake empties into the Northern Pacific Ocean, and is the River that Cook discovered.

5th. That an easy communication with, and an advantageous commerce may be carried on by Posts established on Lakes Slave, Arabaska, Pelicam, &c. &c., and to deliver the Fruits of their commerce at the Mouth of Cook's River, to be then carried to China &c., and that as Cook's River and the Lands on Slave Lake, Arabaska &c. are very fine, some advantageous settlements may be made there which may be beneficial to Government.

The Country about Arabaska is exceedingly fine, and the Climate more moderate than it is here, which is owing to its Propinquity to the Western Ocean. The Distance is not more than 200 Leagues, if so much, on a West South Western Course. We have a Post there, as we have on the different Lakes from Lake Superior to the upper end of Slave Lake, the number of Posts is 21, in that distance where Traders are posted to trade with the different Tribes of Indians.

The distance from this Town to the Head of Lake Superior is 750 Leagues and from the Head of Lake Superior to the Great Slave Lake is one thousand Leagues, in the whole 1750 Leagues.

The person from whom I had my Information is Peter Pond, who was supplied with the proper Instruments here to take his Latitude and instructed fully in the knowledge of Astromony &c. &c. His Latitude is undoubtedly Right and his Longitude is near Right. It was taken by some Persons sent from York River seven hundred miles to the westward of it, and from thence by the Courses of the Rivers and Lakes, no great mistake can be made.

Perhaps another use might be made in time of War by this Rout, which would be to convey Intelligence to the East Indies by that Rout.

Another man by the name of McKenzie was left by Pond at Slave Lake with orders to go down the River, and from thence to Unalaska, and so to Kamskatsha, and thence to England through Russia &c. If he meets with no accident you may have him with you next year.

No. 3a.—DAVID OGDEN TO EVAN NEPEAN.

(Archives, series Q, vol. 49, p. 356.)

SIR,—Having received from my son Isaac Ogden of Quebec a letter dated 7th Novem. 1789 giving an account of a Mr. Pond's having explored the interior parts of North America, I have the honor to inclose you an extract of said Letter as the same may afford some advantageous Information to Government, which, if you think proper you will lay before Mr. Grenville.

I have the Honor to be Sir,
Your most obedt. & very humble serv.,

DAVID OGDEN.

RATHBONE PLACE, No. 50,
January 23d, '90.

No. 4.—MEMORANDUM BY ALEXANDER DALRYMPLE ON THE ROUTE FOR DISCOVERIES.

(Archives, series Q, vol. 49, p. 368.)

2nd Feby. 1790.

The season being so far advanced renders a voyage round Cape Horn *inexpedient*, I do not say *impracticable*, for admitting a Vessel to sail the beginning of March, we cannot fairly suppose less than three months to double Cape Horn, which