

as there is in *White-Bear-Bay*, *Lumlet's-Inlet*, *Baffin's-Bay*, or *Davis's-Straits*; which therefore seem to belong to another Continent, that lies under or near the Pole. Another Reason that proves the same Thing, is the Height of the Tides, which as we before observed, no Way resemble those in the Northern Seas, which at *Nova Zembla* rise only one Fathom, and not above half that Height at *Spitzbergen*; that this Passage, wherever it may lie, is short, may be proved by many Arguments; for first, we find no large Rivers on the West Coast of *Hudson's-Bay*; but, on the contrary, very weak and small, which is a direct Proof that they do not run far, and consequently that the Land is not of any great Extent, which separates the two Seas. In the next Place, the Strength and Regularity of the Tides, is another very strong Argument; for where we find Tides ebbing and flowing, nearly equal Time, saving the Difference occasioned by the Moon's coming later to the Meridian, every twenty-four Hours, it is esteemed a Mark of being near that Ocean, from whence such Tides spring; and indeed it is one of the surest and most certain Marks we have. There is a third Reason, and I will mention no more; and that is, the Resort of the Whales hither; for considering the Season in which they are found here in greatest Number, it is impossible to conceive they should have Time to pass into warmer Climates, if the Passage, through which they pass, be not very short. All these Arguments taken together, fortify and support each other, and may be looked upon as so many concurring Testimonies, in Favour of the same Truth. If this Passage be not far to the Northward, which the Reasons already assigned, seem clearly to prove that it is not; and if for the Causes before mentioned, we have good Reason to conclude, that it is but short; we may from thence presume, that it is both open and commodious, which is farther manifested by the strong Currents setting through it, which is the Reason that there can be no Ice in it. Laying therefore all these Circumstances together, I think it must be allowed, that there is nothing wild or chimerical, in the endeavouring to discover it; and that considering the Pains taken in, and the Lights obtained from the last Expedition, it cannot with any Shadow of Justice be filed fruitless, tho' as to the ultimate Intention of it without Success. We might add to this, that various other great Designs have been fully carried into Execution, after repeated Disappointments, and contrary to the Sentiments of very knowing and intelligent Persons, whose Opinions happened