

# STATEMENT

OF THE

## HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

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By a Charter of King Charles the Second, dated May 3, A. D. 1670, 1670 the Hudson's Bay Company was incorporated by the name of "THE GOVERNOR AND COMPANY OF ADVENTURERS OF ENGLAND TRADING INTO HUDSON'S BAY." Many rights and privileges were granted by this Charter, the two most important rights being those given in the following words:—"We have given, granted, and confirmed, and for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do give, grant, and confirm unto the said Governor and Company and their Successors, the sole Trade and Commerce of all those Seas, Straits, Bays, Rivers, Lakes, Creeks and Sounds, in whatsoever latitude they shall be, that lie within the entrance to the Straits called Hudson's Straits, together with all the lands and territories upon the countries, coasts, and confines of the Seas, Bays, Lakes, Rivers, Creeks, and Sounds aforesaid, that are not already actually possessed by or granted to any of our Subjects, or possessed by the Subjects of any other Christian Prince or State."

In 1671 the Company sent out a ship to Hudson's Bay, under the command of Charles Bailey, whom they appointed Governor of the Territories and Forts they had established in the Bay previous to incorporation. 1671

In 1682 the French for the first time entered the Bay, and in that and the following years did much damage to the trade and property of the Company. In 1687 Commissioners were appointed by the 1682 1687

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