

granted to them on Express Condition, that they should settle in those Countries, make a Plantation or Colony there, similar to the other Colonies of *America*, that they should use their utmost Endeavours to find out a Passage to the western or southern Ocean of *America*, and to extend the Trade of *Great Britain*; and though these were the three great and principal Ends and Views of the Charter, yet the Company have not complied with any one of them: For it is a Fact notorious, that they have not settled, or so much as attempted to settle any Plantation or Colony, in any Part of that vast Tract of Land; and it is equally certain, that they have not only not found out a North-west Passage, nor determined by any Searches they have made, whether there be such a Passage or not, nor used the proper Means for that Purpose themselves, nor encouraged others to do it, but so far from it have, contrary to the express Intention of their Charter, done all in their Power to prevent such Discovery from being made by others, and for that Purpose have made use of the Powers given them by their Charter, to defeat the great Purposes for which it was principally given. And your Petitioners most humbly averr, that in two Years they have gone further and done more at their own private Expence, towards this important Discovery, than the Company have done in the great Length of Time since the granting of their Charter, and with the Stock of the Company, the few Attempts they have made being colourable and