to obstruct t Spitzborg 78°. and tioning the Attempt, tempt, and the fending me of the pefore, fince it is only by any farther pany is unbe far from own Part, I, cticable, but gerous, after y'd to them eft that they xpected from y are pleafed apply myfelf it chearfully, ional Benefit: ould reap the he World the caufe I know us, that they nro' it, as the

ty of animadny are pleafed ng fully connunicated the ble to them; put them to ratify my Cue Paffage may rther Trouble. I fhall

(97)

I shall always own myself obliged to you for the Favour you have done me, and wish you Health and Prosperity, Sc.

Sir Bibye's Letter and this Anfwer I fent a Copy of to Captain Middleton; but before be received it be fent me an Anfwer to my former Letter in the following Words:

Nº. VIII.

SIR, London, Jan. 21, 1737. I Have the Honour of yours of the 20th of November, and am forry that it is not in my Power to answer your Requelt, of giving you a more particular Account from the Journals of those who were fent last Year upon the Discovery; the Company alone can give you that Satisfaction, and no doubt will transmit them to you, by which you will be able to judge of the Skill and Conduct of those who were employed in that Affair, and may also form fome Judgment, whether the Company are defirous of profecuting it in earnest.

However, it is my Opinion, that nothing will be done in it to any Purpofe, unless the Government will give a fufficient Encouragement to fome Perfons of known Abilities to undertake it, and then I should not defpair but the whole might be accomplifhed by paffing two whole Winters at Churchill, and proceeding on the Difcovery with Refolution during the Summer : For my own Parr, I confets I should be ambicious of attaining the Honour of fuch a Difcovery, and flould hope very much that Succefs would crown the Undertaking; but as I have a certain Income from the Company, as long as I am able to go that Voyage, it would not be prudent in me to quit their Employment upon an Uncertainty; and if they flould come to the