

*Discovery of a North-West Passage.*

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is not set out upon until the Year is advanced, June 1747. and the trading *Indians* have come down : Upon the coming of any of the Canoes of the trading *Indians*, to the Factory, the Standard is brought out and rattled, then the *Indians* ashore, make a particular Cry to those in the Canoes, run down to them, and as soon as one Canoe is hauled ashore they fire their Muskets over the rest, and those who in the Canoes answer their Fire, by that declare for going ; so do not return up into the Country when they have traded, but send up their Wives and Children, who are put to great Extremities during this Time, having no Way to maintain themselves, but by fishing and getting of Berries; having raised as many *Indians* as they can, after drinking and dancing they set out, taking some few Women with them. The Canoes they use on these Occasions are built light, long and narrow, in Order for their greater Speed ; there are two in a Canoe, carrying dried Flesh for their Provision : If by Accident they fall in with the *Eskimaux* while fishing, they fire upon them, and the *Eskimaux* being without Fire Arms are forced to fly : If they attack them at Land, it is most generally by a Night Surprise, firing in upon them in their Tents when asleep. The *Indians*, when their Provision is gone, will not either out of Laziness hunt for more, or more probably for Fear, as they must be stragling or seperated while hunting, of the *Eskimaux* meeting them ; therefore when forced by this urgent Necessity, the Want of Provision, they eat the Flesh