

jects to plant, settle, or trade in any of the Countries adjoining to the *Bay*, granted to them by their Charter; yet have connived at, or allowed the *French* to encroach, settle and trade within their Limits, on the south Side of the *Bay*, to the great Detriment and Loss of *Great Britain*.

That the Petitioners being desirous to pursue the Discovery of the Passage to the Southern Ocean of *America*, by Land or by Water, will engage not only to prosecute the same until it be fully discovered, as far as practicable, but also to settle and improve the Land in all the Countries on that northern Continent, by making Alliances with, and civilizing the Natives, and incorporating with them, and by that Means lay a Foundation for their becoming Christians, and industrious Subjects of his Majesty; and also extend the *British* Trade into the Heart of that northern Continent, around the *Bay*, and into such Countries as they may discover beyond it in the Western Ocean, and to use their utmost Endeavours to prevent the *French* Incroachments upon the *British* Rights and Trade in that Continent.

In order therefore to enable the Petitioners to prosecute and bring to Perfection so valuable a Discovery, and to civilize the Natives, and settle the Lands without loss of Time, and that the Trade and Settlement of such extensive Countries may not be longer delayed, or perhaps for ever lost to his Majesty, and
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