

GLOSSARY.

41. DEFINITION OF TECHNICAL TERMS AND RUSSIAN NOMENCLATURE, USED BY THE AUTHOR IN THE PRECEDING MONOGRAPH.

- AHLUCKEYAK (Aleutian).—A rough back-bone.
- ALEUT (Russian).—Name given to all native inhabitants of the Aleutian islands.
- ARRIE (Russian).—*Lomvia arra*. The guillemot, or murre; so named from the bird's harsh cry of "arra-arra".
- BAILLIE BRÜSHKIE (Russian).—*Phaleris psittacula*. Parroquet Auk; "white bosom".
- BANYAH (Russian).—A steamy bath-house.
- BARBIE (Russian).—An elderly married woman.
- BARRABKIE (Russian).—A hut.
- BARRABARA (Russian).—A large hut, or "kozarmic".
- BOORON (Russian).—Surf.
- BIDARRAH (Russian).—A large skin-covered boat, propelled with oars, or used with sails before the wind; carries from three to ten tons.
- BIDARKA (Russian).—A small skin-covered canoe.
- BIDARSHIK (Russian).—One who controls a baidar and its crew; a foreman.
- BOBROVIA (Russian).—Otter island.
- BOGA SLOY (Russian).—God's word.
- BOORGA (Russian).—Gale that blows fiercely and is laden with snow; from "booryah", a storm or tempest.
- BOLSHOI (Russian).—Big.
- BUIK (Russian).—A working ox, or bull.
- BULI (English).—The adult male fur-seal; also the adult male walrus and sea-lion.
- CANOOSKIE (Russian).—*Simorhynchus cristatellus*. Crested auk.
- CHIKIE (Russian).—*Larus glaucus*. Burgomaster gull.
- CHORNIE GOOSE (Russian).—*Branta canadensis* var. *leucopareia*. White-collared goose.
- CHOOCHKIE (Russian).—*Simorhynchus pusillus*. Least, or knob-billed auk.
- CHOOCHIL (Russian).—To Stuff.
- COOKHNET (Russian).—The Aleutian cooking hut outside of the barrabkie.
- COW (English).—The adult female of the fur-seal, the sea-lion, and the walrus.
- DALNOI MEES (Russian).—Distant cape.
- DEETIAH (Russian).—Children.
- DOMASHNIE (Russian).—Houses.
- EINAHNUHTO (Aleutian).—The mammae.
- EMANNIMIK (Russian).—Namesday; or, literally, used as birthday.
- EPATKA (Russian).—*Fratercula corniculata*. Horned puffin.
- FLENSING (English).—Act of removing skins from seal carcasses.
- FLIPPER (English).—The fore-hand and hind-foot of fur-seal, sea-lion, and walrus.
- GORBOTCH (Russian).—Humpback.
- GORODE (Russian).—A town; a village.
- GOVEROOSKIE (Russian).—*Larus brevirostris*, and *L. tridactylus*. Gulls.
- HAULING (English).—Action of seals in coming up from the sea over the land.
- HEAT, "HEATING" (English).—That sudden decay of the seal's body after death.
- HOLLUSCHAK, pl. HOLLUSCHICKIE (Russian).—Bachelor; bachelors.

- HUMPBAC WHALE (English).—*Megaptera versabilis*.
- KALOG (Aleutian).—All the small cottoid fishes.
- KAMLAIKA (Russian).—The water-proof shirt.
- KAMMIN (Russian).—Stone.
- KAMMINISTA (Russian).—Rocky place.
- KANOOSKA (Russian).—See Canooskie, *antea*. "Little captain."
- KAPOOSTAH (Russian).—All algæ. Sea-weeds; from "morskje kapoosta", a "sea-cabbage".
- KAUTICK, pl. KAUTICKIE (Russian).—Fur-seal, collectively.
- KEETAVIDE (Russian).—Whale place.
- KENCH (English).—Bin in the salt-house for pickling fur-seal skins.
- KESHLA (Russian).—Sour; rotting.
- KIBITSCHA (Russian).—The common four-wheeled carriage of Russia.
- KILLER-WHALE (English).—*Orca gladiator*, var. *rectipinnis*.
- KOLITSKIE (Russian).—*Tringa ptilocnemis*, and all waders on the islands.
- KOTICK, pl. KOTICKIE (Russian).—Young fur-seal.
- KVASS, or QUASS (Russian).—Native home-brewed beer; vile product of flour, dried apples, sugar, and water, fermented in a cask for a certain period; also called "mahkoolah", after a Russian brewer.
- LAABAS (Russian).—Drying or hanging frame for meat and fish.
- LAAFKA (Russian).—Storehouse, or store.
- LAABUSTOCHIE (Russian).—Breeding-grounds (literally, "a place where seals dry off").
- LIMMERSHIN (Aleutian).—*Anorthura troglodytes*; wren. (A "chew of tobacco").
- LOUGHTAK (Russian).—Air dried skins of all seals.
- LUPUS (Russian).—*Fulmarus glacialis*, var. *Rodgersi*. Fulmar. A large species of petrel.
- MAASLUCKEN (Aleutian).—Missing, or minus.
- MATKA (Russian).—Mother; applied to female fur-seals and sea-lions.
- MEDVAIDSKI (Russian).—Bears.
- MELCHISKA (Russian).—Boy; urchin.
- MEES (Russian).—Cape; headland; point.
- MISTA (Russian).—Place; spot.
- MOROSKA (Russian).—The fruit of *Rubus chamæmorus*. "Little frost berry."
- MORSEZOVIA (Russian).—Walrus island; also, "Morserovia".
- MORSKIE KOT (Russian).—Fur-seals ("sea-cat").
- NAHVOSTOKE (Russian).—"To the eastward"; applied to the Black Bluffs on St. Paul.
- NAHSAYVERNIA (Russian).—"To or on the north shore."
- NAH SPEEL (Russian).—"On the point"; a corruption of "nah speetsah".
- NEARHPAH (Russian).—*Phoca vitulina*. The hair-seal.
- NOVASTOSHNAH (Russian).—"Place of recent growth"; applied to Northeast point.
- OCHEN (Russian).—Very.
- OOTKIE (Russian).—Duck; applied to all ducks.
- ORIEL (Russian).—*Graculus bicristatus*. Shag, cormorant.
- OSTROV (Russian).—Island.
- PAHKNOOT (Russian).—A smell.
- PAHTOSHKIE (Russian).—*Leucosticte tephrocotis* var. *griseinucha*. Gray-eared finch.
- PEESAICH, pl. PEESTCHEE (Russian).—*Vulpes lagopus*. Blue and white foxes.
- POD (English).—A smaller or larger gathering of seals on land.
- POLAVINA SOPKA (Russian).—Halfway mountain.
- POLTOOS (Russian).—*Hippoglossus vulgaris*. Halibut.
- POMEERAT (Russian).—To die; applied only to the decease of animals.
- PRECASHCHIK (Russian).—An agent; a clerk; a sheriff.
- PREDOVCHIK (Russian).—The "senior officer".
- PROMYSHLENIK (Russian).—A hunter.
- POVARNIK (Russian).—A cook-room.
- PUP (English).—The young of the fur-seal and sea-lion, up to the age of one year.
- RAAK (Russian).—The common crab. (*Chionoecetes*.)
- RAHKOOSKA (Russian).—The common mussel. (*Mytilus*.)
- RAP-O-LOOF (Russian).—*Turdus migratorius*. Red-breasted Robin.
- RAZBOINEK (Russian).—Robber.
- REPKIE (Russian).—*Echinoidæ*. Sea-urchins.
- ROOKERY, pl. ROOKERIES (English).—Breeding-grounds and breeding-seals thereon.

- SAAPKA (Russian).—*Harelda glacialis*. "Old squaw," long-tailed duck.
 SCOCHNIE (Russian).—Tiresome; lonesome.
 SEECATCH, pl. SEECATCHIE (Russian).—Male fur-seal and sea-lion, full grown.
 SEEVITCH, pl. SEEVITCHIE (Russian).—Sea-lion, collectively.
 SEROVNAH (Russian).—"Just like it."
 SHEKSAH (Russian).—*Empetrum nigrum*. Vine and fruit thereof. The "crowberry" of English botanists.
 SNAGUISKIE (Russian).—*Plectrophanes nivalis*. The snow bird.
 STAROOKA (Russian).—An old woman.
 STAREEK (Russian).—An old man.
 STÖORMAN (Russian).—Ship's mate.
 TALNEEK (Russian).—*Salix*. All the creeping willows are thus named.
 TARBOSSA (Russian).—Native boots made of the flippers, throats, and intestines of the *Pinnipedia*.
 TAWPOKIE (Russian).—*Pratercula cirrhata*. Tufted puffin; from its hatchet-like bill.
 TAYOPLI (Russian).—Warm.
 TOLSTOI (Russian).—Thick.
 TONKIE MEES (Russian).—Little or peaked cape.
 TRIESCA (Russian).—*Gadus morrhua*. Codfish.
 UN KONCHIELSAH (Russian).—"He has finished." The refined reference to human death; never applied to animals.
 VARRONE (Russian).—*Corvus corax*. Raven.
 VESOLIA MISTA (Russian).—Jolly place.
 WHALE RIND (English).—The skin of the whale.
 WIG (English).—That light buff-colored patch on the shoulders of the seecatchie.
 ZAPOOSKA (Russian).—A saving of, or sparing of.
 ZOOBÄDEN (Russian).—"Tooth cut; tooth bitten."

42. WEIGHTS, MEASURES, AND VALUES.

I introduce the following brief tables of Russian weights, measures, and values, in order that the occasional mention made by Veniaminov, in this respect, may be clearly understood, and also to assist any inquiring individual who may be disposed to read up Russ' in authorities on the subject of their travel, geographical research, and fur-trade in Alaska.

WEIGHTS.		MONEY.	
1 zolotnik	= 6 English grains av.	1 copper kopeck	= 1 silver kopeck.
3 zolotnik	= 1 "Lot".	2 copper kopecks	= 1 grōsh.
32 "lots"	= 1 English pound av.	3 copper kopecks	= 1 alteen.
1 pood	= 36 $\frac{1}{8}$ English pounds av.	5 copper kopecks	= 1 peetak.
		5 silver kopecks	= 1 peetak.
MEASURES.		10 silver kopecks	= 1 greevnah.
1 arsheen	= 28 English inches.	15 silver kopecks	= 1 peteealtin.
1 vershoak	= 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ English inches.	20 silver kopecks	= 1 dvoogreevenik.
1 sajeen	= 7 English feet.	25 silver kopecks	= 1 chetvertak.
3 versts	= 2 English miles.	50 silver kopecks	= 1 polteenah.
		100 silver kopecks	= 1 ruble.*

The gold coinage of Russia is seldom seen, even at home, and never has been used in Alaska; the form of its coinage is known to Russians as an "Impériale", and is equal to about \$5 of our currency.

The word "ruble", according to Mr. S. N. Büynitskie, comes from the Russian "roobeet", or, to hew with a hatchet, because the practice of notching the bullion bars, as specified below, was one that called for the use of a little ax for that purpose. In 1654 rubles were first introduced to Russia, at Moscow, in the form of bullion bars, with deep notches in them, "rubli," which enabled the possessor to detach as much of the bar as his payment might require; hence the origin of the word *ruble*; the first silver money of Russia was coined at Novogorod in 1420; it was struck in small pieces, which were then, as now, called "kopecks"; the present value of the kopeck is not quite $\frac{3}{4}$ of 1 cent (United States currency). Nearly all the ordinary business calculations of Russia are made upon the basis of kopecks. At present, specie has substantially disappeared in that country, and depreciated paper is

* The silver ruble is nearly equal to 75 cents in our coin. The paper ruble fluctuates in Russia from 40 to 50 cents, specie value; in Alaska, it was rated at 20 cents, silver. Much of the "paper" currency in Alaska during Russian rule was stamped on little squares of walrus hide.

the representative; the silver kopeck no longer exists as current coin. The copper kopeck bears on its obverse side the figure of St. George spearing a dragon: "from this spear," says Georgi, "called *kapca* in Russian, the term *kopeck* has been derived."

A still smaller coin, called the "*polooshka*", worth $\frac{1}{4}$ kopeck, has been used in Russia; it takes its name from a hare skin, "*ooshka*", or "little ears", which, before the use of money by the Slavs, was one of the lowest articles of exchange; *pol* signifying *half*, and *polooshka*, *half a hare's skin*. From another small coin, the "*deinga*" (equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ kopeck in value), is derived the Russian word for money, *deingah* or *deingie*.*

In conclusion, it may be interesting to add to this mention of the coin used on the seal-islands and in the fur-trade transactions of Alaska, that the first piece of stamped money known to the numismatic records is a small coin made by the Phocians about 700 B. C., on the obverse side of which was the figure of a seal, so stamped because when these people were emigrating their boats were "followed by shoals of seals".

*As far as I can ascertain, the above expression of Russian nomenclature, regarding the subjects named, is the first correct rendition made in the English language of the same. Clarke [*Travels: 1800*] gives, on a fly-leaf of introduction to his interesting and graphic picture of Russian life and country, these items of weight, measure, and money, nearly all correct as to figures, but hardly one of the Muscovitic equivalents is properly pronounced and spelled in accordance. He frankly confesses his ignorance, however, of the Russian language, and hence bars out all adverse criticism thereby. I should also add that I have, as far as possible, refrained from using any of the Aleutian nomenclature on the seal-islands, for the simple reason that while those natives do not, in talking among themselves, employ the above Russian titles, yet when they address us they do, and hence the Slavonian designations are those which all races up there agree upon in their definition and application.

EXPLANATORY NOTES AND COMMENTS UPON THE MAP OF ST. PAUL ISLAND.

ST. PAUL.—This name was given to the island because it was described for the first time on St. Paul's Day, July 10, 1787, by the Russian discoverers. [June 29, Justinian calendar.]

DEFINITIONS FOR RUSSIAN NAMES OF THE ROOKERIES, ETC.—The several titles on the map that indicate the several breeding-grounds, owe their origin and have their meaning as follows:

ZAPADNIE signifies "westward" and is so used by the people who live in the village.

ZOLTOI signifies "golden", so used to express the metallic shimmering of the sands there.

KETAVIE signifies "of a whale", so used to designate that point where a large right whale was stranded in 1849 (?); from Russian "keet", or "whale".

LUKANNON.—So named after one Lukannon, a pioneer Russian, who distinguished himself, with one Kaiecov, a countryman, by capturing a large number of sea-otters at that point, and on Otter island, in 1787-'88.

TONKIE MEES signifies "small (or "slender") cape" [tonkie, "thin"; mees, "cape"].

POLAVINA literally signifies "half way", so used by the natives because it is practically half way between the salt-houses at Northeast Point and the village. POLAVINA SOPKA, or "half-way mountain", gets its name in the same manner.

NOVASTOSHNAH, from the Russian "novaité", or "of recent growth", so used because this locality in pioneer days was an island to itself; and it has been annexed recently to the main land of St. Paul.

VESOLIA MIETA, or "jolly place", the site of one of the first settlements, and where much carousing was indulged.

MAROONITCH, the site of a pioneer village, established by one Maroon.

NAHSAYVERNIA, or "on the north shore", from Russian "sayverníe".

BOGA SLOV, or "word of God", indefinite in its application to the place, but is, perhaps, due to the fact that the pious Russians, immediately after landing at Zapadnie, in 1787, ascended the hill and erected a huge cross thereon.

EINAHNUHTO, an Aleutian word, signifying the "three mamma".

TOLSTOI, a Russian name, signifying "thick"; it is given to at least a hundred different capes and headlands throughout Alaska, being applied as indiscriminately as we do the term "Bear creek" to little streams in the western states and territories.

THE PROFILE OF ST. PAUL.—That profile of the south shore, between the Village Hill and Southwest Point, taken from the steamer's anchorage off the Village cove, shows the characteristic and remarkable alternation of rookery slope and low sea-level flats. This point of viewing is slightly more than half a mile true west of the Village hill, to a sight which brings Boga Slovo summits and Tolstoi head nearly in line. At Zapadnie is the place where the Russian discoverers first landed in 1787, July 10. With the exception of the bluff west end, Ein-ahn-uh-to cliffs, the whole coast of St. Paul is accessible, and affords an easy landing, except at the short reach of "Seethah" and the rookery points, as indicated. The great sand beach of this island extends from Lukannon to Polavina, thence to Webster's house, Novastoshnah; from there over, and sweeping back and along the north shore to Nahsayvernia headland, then between Zapadnie and Tolstoi, together with the beautiful though short sand of Zoltoi. This extensive and slightly broken sandy coast is not described as peculiar to any other island in Alaska, or of Siberian waters.

FRESH-WATER LAKES.—There are no running streams at any season of the year on St. Paul; but the abundance of fresh water is plainly presented by the numerous lakes, all of which are "svayjoi", save the lagoon estuary. The four large reefs which I have located are each a wash in every storm that blows from seaward over them; they are all rough, rocky ledges. That little one indicated in English bay caused the wrecking of a large British vessel in 1847, which was coming in to anchor just without Zapadnie; a number of the crew were "maaslucken",* so my native informant averred.

DRIFT-WOOD.—Most of the small amount of drift-wood that is found on this island is procured at Northeast Point, and Polavina; the north shore from Maroonitch to Tsammanah has also been favored with sea-waif logs in exceptional seasons, to the exclusion of all other sections of the coast. The natives say that the St. George people get much more drift-wood every year, as a rule, than they do on St. Paul. From what I could see during my four seasons of inspection, they never have got much, under the best of circumstances, on either island. They pay little attention to it now, and gather what they do during the winter season, going to Polavina and the north shore with sleds, on which they hoist sails after loading there, and scud home before the strong northerly blasts.

Captain Erskine informs me that the water is free and bold all around the north shore, from Cross hill to Southwest Point; no reefs or shoals up to within a half a mile of land anywhere. English bay is very shallow, and no sea-going vessel should attempt to enter it, that draws over 6 feet.

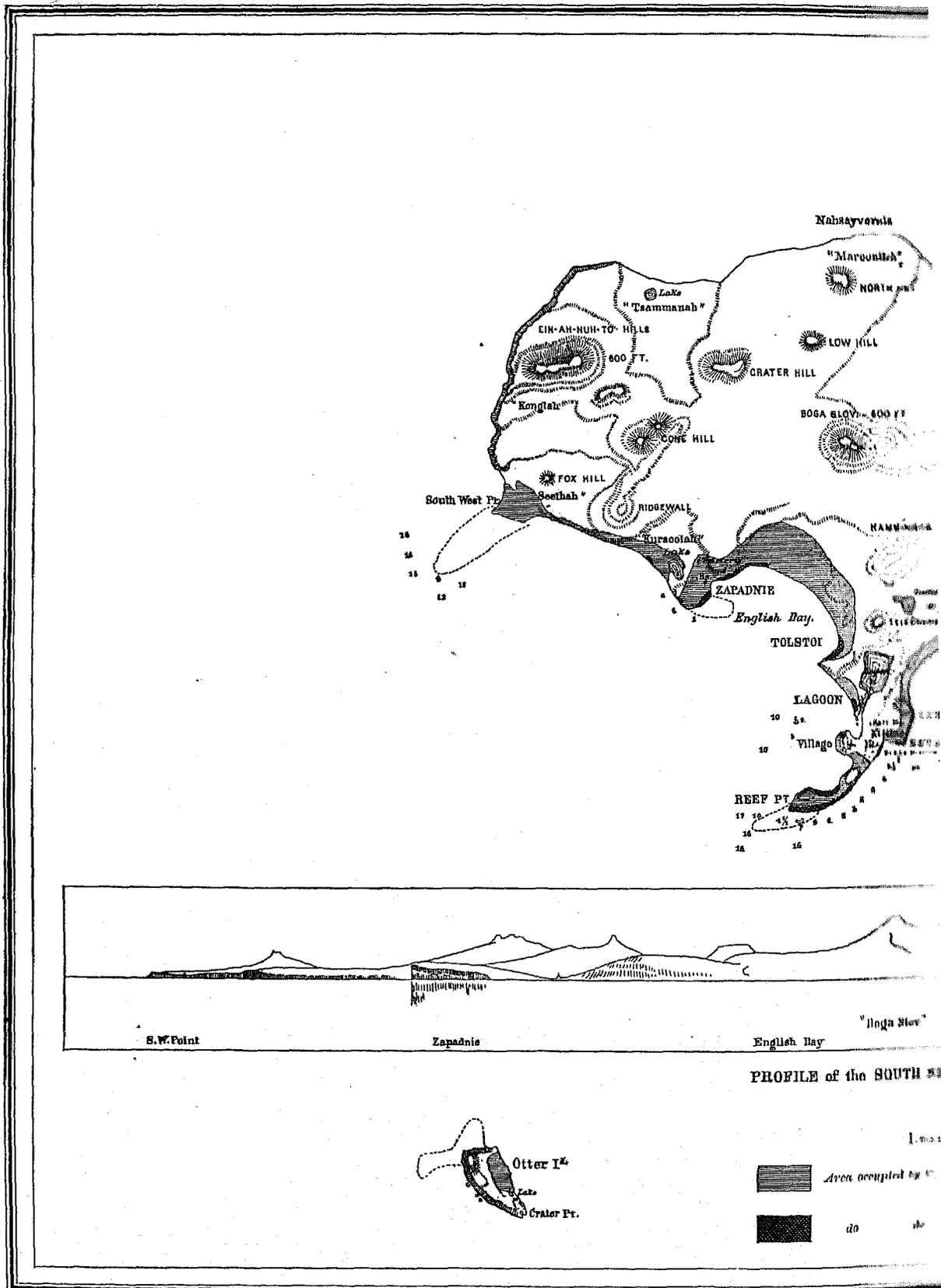
AUTHORITIES FOR LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE.—All the positions of latitude and longitude which I place upon this map are taken from Captain Archimandritov's manuscript chart. During the whole month of July, 1874, while I was here with the "Reliance", there was not a single opportunity for a solar observation, although Captain Baker made several attempts to make some. Captain Erskine, however, has verified Archimandritov's work, and says that it is very near the correct thing. I could have taken observations easily in the occasional clear November days of 1872, but, unfortunately, the chronometer which I had, proved so defective that I abandoned the labor.

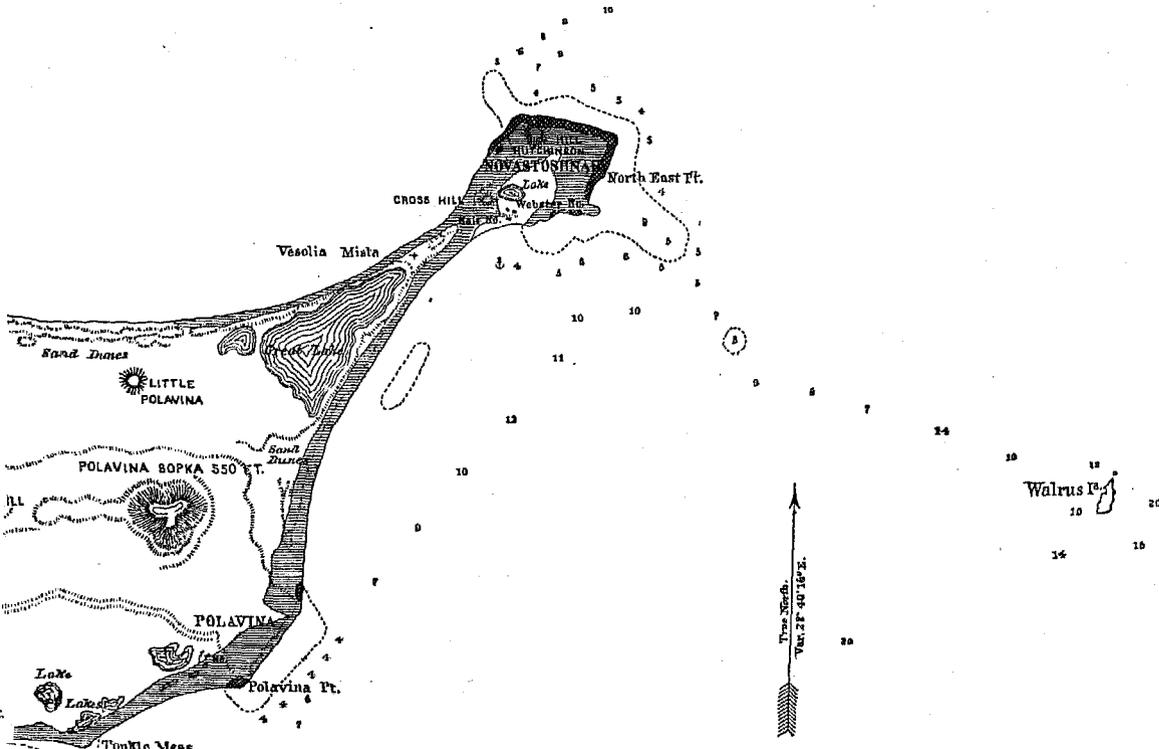
HOW TO REACH WALRUS ISLET.—To visit Walrus island in a boat, pleasantly and successfully, it is best to submit to the advice and direction of the natives. They leave the village in the evening, and, taking advantage of the tide, proceed along the coast as far as the bluffs of Polavina, where they rest on their oars, doze and smoke, until the dawning of daylight, or later, perhaps, until the fog lifts enough for them to get a glimpse of the islet which they seek; they row over then in about two hours with their bidarra. They leave, however, with perfect indifference as to daylight or fog; nothing but a southeaster can disturb their tranquility when they succeed in landing on Walrus island. They would find it as difficult to miss striking the extended reach of St. Paul on their return, as they found it well nigh impossible to push off from Polavina and find "Morzovia" in a thick, windy fog and running sea.

OTTER ISLET: SLIGHT CORRECTION.—Otter island, or "Bobrovia", is easily reached in almost any weather that is not very stormy, for it looms up high above the water. It takes the bidarra about two hours to row over from the village, while I have gone across once in a whale-boat with less than one hour's expenditure of time, sail and oars, *en route*. A slight mistake of the engraver causes Crater point to appear as a bifurcated tongue. It is not so; but there is a funnel-shaped cavity here plainly emarginated from the sea, and on that extreme point, constituting and giving to it this name.

*Anything missing, or beyond human ken, in the Aleutian vernacular is "maaslucken".

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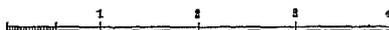


ST PAUL,

Prybilov Group, Bering Sea, Alaska.

Surveyed and drawn April, 1873—July, 1874.

by
HENRY W. ELLIOTT.



Scale:—Statute Miles.



Superficial area of St. Paul 33 sq. m 42 m shore line (16 1/2 of which Seal Ground.)

Reef Point 57° 03' 00" N. Lat. 170° 12' 00" W. Long.
S. W. 57° 11' 12" N. Lat. 170° 19' 03" W. Long.
N. E. 57° 10' 04" N. Lat. 170° 00' 02" W. Long.
Otter I. 57° 03' 00" N. Lat. 170° 16' 00" W. Long.
Walrus I. 57° 11' 03" N. Lat. 169° 49' 05" W. Long.

"Hauling Grounds."

"Breeding do."

Soundings by Capt. J. G. BAKER, U. S. Revenue Marine, in fathoms.

EXPLANATORY NOTES AND COMMENTS UPON THE MAP OF ST. GEORGE ISLAND.

ST. GEORGE.—This title was given to the island by its discoverer in honor of his vessel, the sloop "St. George".

SALIENT FEATURES OF THE TOPOGRAPHY: INACCESSIBLE CHARACTER OF THE COAST.—The profile which I give of this island presents clearly the idea of that characteristic, bold, abrupt elevation of St. George from the sea. From the Garden cove around to Zapadnie beach, there is not a single natural opportunity for a man to land; then, again, from Zapadnie beach round to Starry Ateel there is not one sign of a chance for an agile man to come ashore and reach the plateau above. From Starry Ateel to the Great Eastern rookery there is an alternation, between the several breeding-grounds, of three low and gradual slopes of the land to sea-level; these, with the landing at Garden cove and at Zapadnie, are the only spots of the St. George coast where we can come ashore. An active person can scramble up at several steep places between the Sea Lion rookery and Tolstoi Mees, but the rest of that extended bluff sea-wall, which I have just defined, is wholly inaccessible from the water. A narrow strip of rough, rocky shingle, washed over by every storm-beaten sea, is all that lies beneath the mural precipices.

PRETTY CASCADE AT WATERFALL HEAD.—In the spring, when the snow melts on the high plateau, a beautiful cascade is seen at Waterfall head; the feathery, filmy, silver ribbon of plunging water is thrown out into exquisite relief by the rich background of that brownish basalt and tufa over which it drops. Another pretty little waterfall is to be seen just west of the village, at this season only, where it leaps from a low range of bluffs to the sea; the first named cascade is more than 400 feet in sheer unbroken precipitation.

One or two small, naked, pinnacle rocks, standing close in, and almost joined to the beach at the Sea Lion rookery, constitute the only outlying islets or rocks; a stony kelp bed at Zapadnie, and one off the Little Eastern rookery, both of limited reach seaward, are the only hinderances to a ship's sailing boldly round the island, even to scraping the bluffs, at places, safely with her yard-arms. I have located the Zapadnie shoal by observation from the bluffs above; while Captain Baker, of the "Reliance", sounded out the other.

AUTHORITIES FOR LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE.—The observations which fix the positions of Tolstoi and Dalnoi Mees are taken from Russian authority (Captain Archimandritov), while the location of the village was made by Lieutenant Washburn Maynard and myself, in 1874, together with the degrees of variation to the compass; we used an artificial horizon; the overcast weather prevented our verification of the two other points given.

TREND OF OCEAN CURRENTS HERE.—Although small quantities of drift-wood lodge on all points of the coast, yet the greatest amount is found on the south shore, and thence around to Garden cove; this drift-timber is usually wholly stripped of its bark, principally pine and fir sticks, some of them quite large, 18 inches to 2 feet in diameter. Several years occur when a large driftage will be thrown or stranded here; then long intervals of many seasons will elapse with scarcely a log or stick coming ashore. I found at Garden cove, in June, 1873, the well preserved husk of a cocoon, cast up by the surf on the beach; did I not know that it was most undoubtedly thrown over by some whaler in these waters, not many hundred miles away at the farthest, I should have indulged in a pretty reverie over its path in drifting from the South seas to this lonely islet. I presume, however, that the timber, which the sea brings to the Pribylov islands, is that borne down upon the annual floods of the Kuskokvim and Nushagak rivers, on the mainland, and to the east-northeastward, a little more than 225 miles; it comes, however, in very scant supply. I saw very little drift-wood on St. Matthew island; but on the eastern shore of St. Lawrence there was an immense aggregate, which unquestionably came from the Yukon mouth.

SPOT OF PRIBYLOV'S LANDING.—One of the natives, "stareek", Zachar Oostigov ("the president"), told me that the "Russians, when they first landed, came ashore in a thick fog", at Tolstoi Mees, near the present Sea Lion rookery site. As the water is deep and bold there, Pribylov's sloop, the "St. George", must have fairly jammed her bowsprit against those lofty cliffs ere the patient crew had intimation of their position. The old Aleut then showed me the steep gully there, up which the ardent discoverers climbed to the plateau above; and to demonstrate that he was not chilled, or weakened by age, he nimbly scrambled down to the surf below, some 350 vertical feet, and I followed, half stepping and half sliding over Pribylov's path of glad discovery and proud possession, trodden one June day by him, nearly a hundred years ago.

SUGGESTIONS FOR BETTER LOADING AND DISCHARGING A CARGO.—With regard to the loading and unloading of the vessels at St. George, I believe that it would be wise and economical to grade a wagon-road over from the village to Garden cove; I think so because weeks and weeks consecutively have passed, to my personal knowledge, between the unloading and the loading of the steamer; when, during all that season of weary, anxious waiting for the surf to quiet down at the village landing, there was not a single day in which the ship could not have discharged or received her cargo easily and expeditiously on the sand beach at Garden cove. When the "St. Paul" has 75,000 seal-skins in her hold, taken on at the larger island, then has to pound "off and on" here, in fog and tempest, for a week or two, or even longer, waiting for a chance to get the 20,000 or 25,000 St. George skins (ready for her) in turn, her cargo is too costly to risk in this manner, inasmuch as the difficulty can be readily obviated by the cart-road I have indicated. The natives could and would hitch themselves into large hand-carts, and thus draw the skins across and supplies back, with the aid of a mule or two on the stiff grade; this would occur in ascending Ahluckeyak ridge from the village, and also up a short one again rising from Garden cove to the mesa tops. The distance is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and 2 miles of that is nearly fit for wheels, as it lies to-day. I think, seriously, this should be done; it may save or prevent in the future the loss of a valuable ship and her priceless cargo of human life and all its belongings. Thick fogs and howling gales of wind, are dangerous and chronic here.

WHAT THE SKETCH-MAP SHOWS.—The sketch-map of Alaska, which I have inserted in the lower corner of this chart of St. George, is to show, better than any language can, the relative position of these celebrated seal-islands; and also to give a clear idea of their isolation and great distance from Sitka, where most of our people think all Alaska is centered. In fact, Sitka, as far as trade and resources and population are concerned, is one of the most insignificant spots known to that country. Kadiak, Oonga, Belcovskie, and Onalashka each have a greater civilized population than has Sitka to-day, and each has a hundred-fold more importance as a trade-center. As the ship sails, the Pribylov islands are:

2,250 miles W. N. W. from San Francisco.

1,500 miles W. N. W. from Vancouver island, straits of Fuca.

1,400 miles W. N. W. from Sitka.

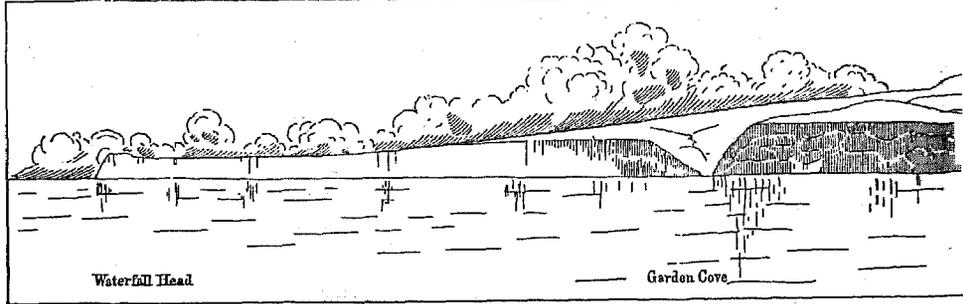
550 miles SW. N. W. from Kadiak.

192 miles N. N. W. from Onalashka.

700 miles E. N. E. from Commander islands, Russian territory.

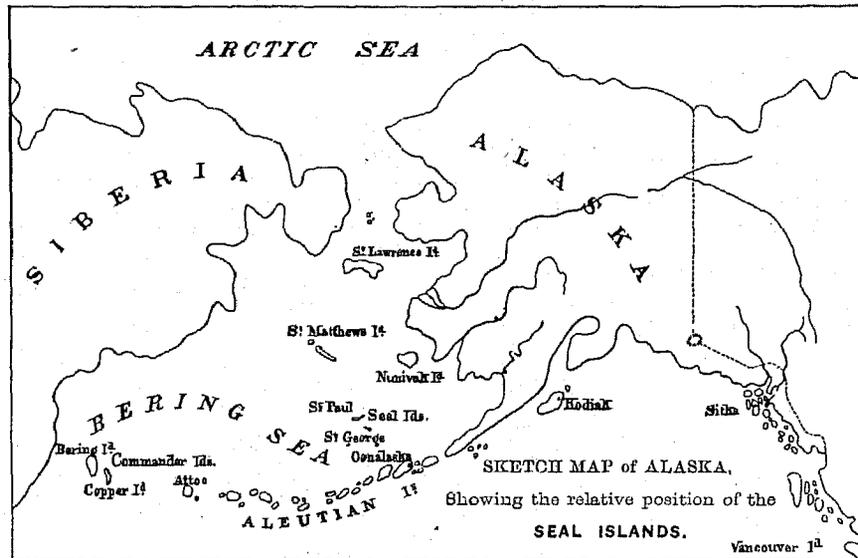
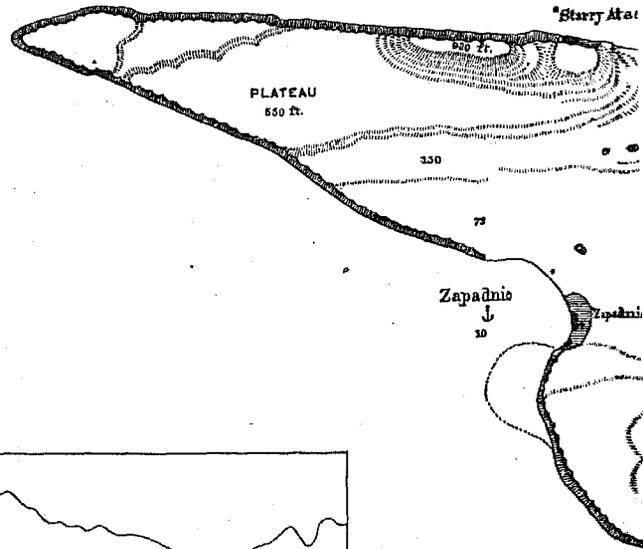
All these distances are via Onalashka, save the last one.

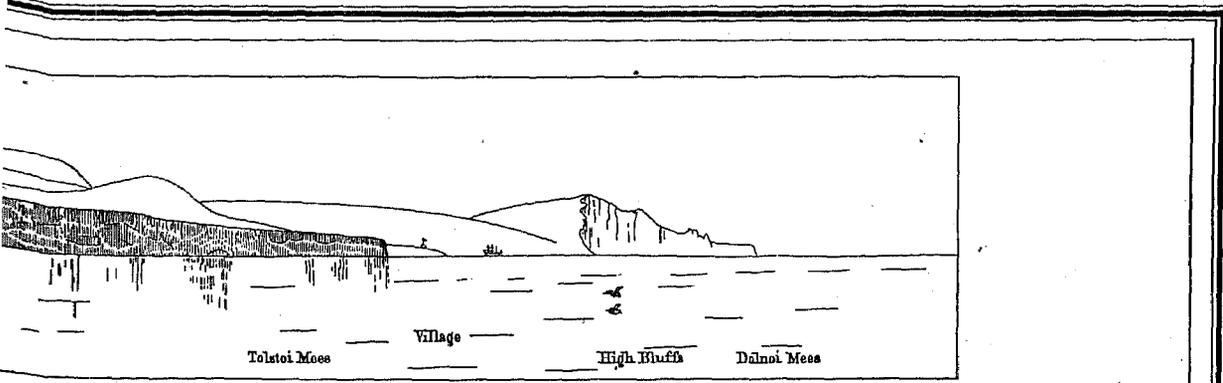
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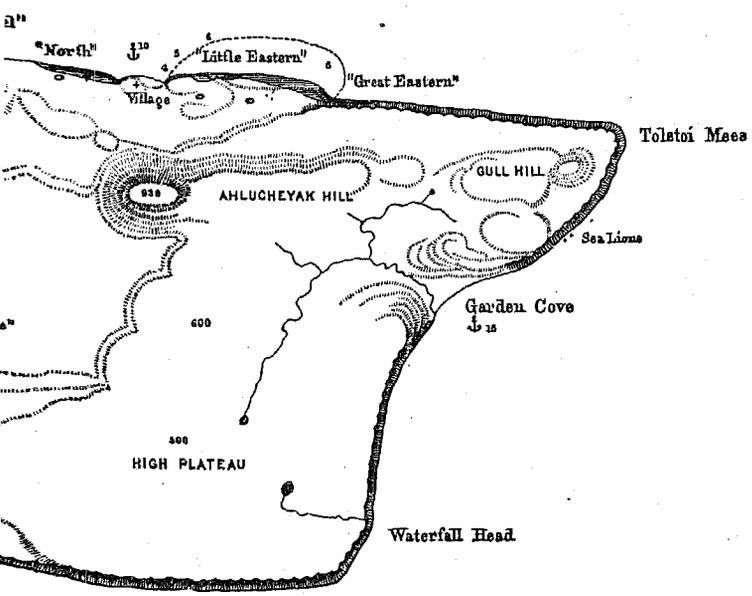
PROFILE of ST GEORGE 'Islands'

Dalnoi Mees



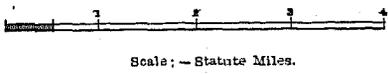


"Tolstoi Mees" bearing W. S. W. 7 m.



ST GEORGE,
Prybilov Group, Bering Sea, Alaska.

Surveyed and drawn April, 1873—July, 1874.
by
HENRY W. ELLIOTT.



Scale: — Statute Miles.

Tolstoi Mees; 56° 37' 01" N. Lat. 169° 27' W. Long.
Dalnoi Mees; 56° 38' 03" N. Lat. 169° 44' W. Long.
Village; 56° 39' 18" N. Lat. 169° 19' W. Long.

Water deep and bold all around Island, 16 to 20 fathoms.

LEGEND.

- indicated by C. Urstinus as "Hauling Grounds,"
- do do "Breeding do.
- Official area 27 sq. m., 20 m. coast.
- (only 2 1/2 of which occupied by seals.)

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