

that had occurred, to which they had given the name of Swiætoi Noss.' The word Swiætoi signifies sacred, and is a name suitable to a promontory which could not be doubled. And this corresponds with the Siberian charts before noticed.*

It is necessary here to explain by what means the navigators in the Icy sea were enabled to arrive with their vessels at a second promontory, without having sailed round the first. On account of the frequency of being inclosed in the Icy sea, by the drift ice, it was customary to construct vessels in a manner that admitted of their being with ease taken to pieces; by which they could be carried across the ice to the outer edge, and there be put together again. The planks were fastened and kept to the timbers only by leathern straps, in lieu of nails or pegs. The construction of the vessels in which DESCHNEW and his companions went is not specified. Mr. MULLER calls them Kotsches. Baron STRAHLENBERG says they departed eastward from the river Lena in their *boats*.

In the beginning of the 18th century, the Czar PETER the Great sent directions to the Governor of Iakutzk to collect information concerning the discoveries which had been made. In consequence of this order, several examinations and depositions were taken; and the few authentic particulars which are known of the voyage of DESCHNEW were thereby preserved. The most remarkable of the depositions which are cited by Mr. MULLER, next to what relates to the expedition of

* It may be objected to this inference, that another cape in the Icy sea, although it has been sailed round, bears nevertheless the name of Swiætoi Noss; but it may naturally be imagined that the name was given before the difficulty had been surmounted.