

“doubled by any vessel, because the west coast of the first
“is barred in the summer by floating ice, and in winter the
“sea there is frozen; but at the second, the sea is clear,
“without ice.”

SCHEUCHZER, the translator of KÆMPFER's History of Japan, in an introduction to his translation, cites some remarks which had been published concerning the Tartars, wherein it was said, “the inhabitants of Siberia who live near
“the river Lena, and along the coast of the Icy ocean, in
“their commerce with Kamtschatka, commonly go with
“their ships round a Suetoi Noss [or sacred cape], to avoid
“the Tschelatzki and Tschuktzki, two fierce and barbarous
“nations possessed of the north-east point of Siberia.” On this vague authority SCHEUCHZER concludes, that Asia is not contiguous to America.

When Mr. MULLER first went into Siberia, no credited tradition appears to have been there current of the north-east extremity of Asia having been sailed round. Charts which were made in Siberia by people inhabiting the coasts of the Icy sea, showed *uncertainty*, and what is to be considered only as an expression of a *belief* of a great north-eastern promontory; for at that part, the coast was not defined by any outline, but left without limitation: whereas a more southern promontory, supposed the second from the Koiyma, was clearly delineated in the charts without any indication of doubt; and this last-mentioned promontory, it is evident, was the cape which was afterwards seen by BERING, and to which Captain Cook gave the name of Cape East, on account of its being the most eastern land known of Asia. In the instructions which were given by the Czar PETER the Great