service—Officers of Russian American Company—Mechanics and laborers—Married women—Hospital—Bishop's farewell sermon—Strictness of clergy in general and also of laity—Ecclesiastical zeal of Russian Government, united with spirit of toleration—Medicinal springs, favorable influence on vegetation as well as health—Perseverance of natives in bathing—Water impregnated with sulphur—Capital mistake of a recent visitor—Redoubt—Miserable weather at Sitka—List of shipping—Sailing of Constantine with M. Rotschoff and family—Sailing of Ochotsk—Tchuktchi of Siberia—Fair of Ostrovnoye—Tchuktchi chief's notion of perfect happiness—Beering's Straits—Climate, British Isles, and Kamschatka—Indian fight—Immediate stop to the issue of liquor among Indians—The evil in question the inevitable result of competition—Political relation between Indians and Russians—Yassack, its origin and progress—Kaluscian funeral—Wedding at Sitka—Bridesmen and bridesmaids—Embarkation on board of the Alexander, and departure from New Archangel

CHAPTER XV.

VOYAGE TO OCHOTSK.

Lightness and variableness of winds-Ship's discipline, &c.-Drunken priest-The Parachute of New Bedford-Whales rapidly diminishing in number-Unknown island-Hunting of sea otters-Danger of sinking in the small baidarska, and affecting mode of meeting death-Russian surveys of the northern shores of Asia anticipated by England at either extremity of line-Voyages of Cook and Billings -Aleutian Archipelago probably the original channel of communication between the two continents-Beering's Straits perhaps a passage from America to Asia, rather than from Asia to America-Aleutian Islanders, their ethnographic charaeteristics-Probable course of emigrants from Aleutian Islands on landing in America—Increasing difficulty of tracing the migrations of tribes—Productions of Alentian Islands—Russians first to plant civilization on northwest coast, statements of Shelekoff-Signs of land-Kamschatka, its corrupt government-Popular delusion with respect to despotism-Passage between Kurile Islands into Sea of Ochotsk-Dense fogs, contrivances to neutralize them-Sleeping whale-Story of Mr. Erasmus and the fogs-Kuriles apparently continuation of Kamschatka-Immediate influence of Russia from Sweden to Japan-Sea of Ochotsk-River Amoor, its physical value neutralized by politics-Collision of Russia and China on the Amoor-Sight of land and preparations for going ashore-Impenetrable barrier of ice-Hair seals-Sleeping whale-Keel-hauled whale-Arrival at Ochotsk -Optical illusion-Record of disasters in these seas

CHAPTER XVI.

FROM OCHOTSK TO YAKUTSK.

Ochotsk—Madame Zavoika's horticulture—Food, health, &c. of inhabitants—Ship-building establishment—Courts and lawyers—Salt—Governor Golovin—Russians and Ostrogs, and Cossacks—Shipwrecked Japanese—Disciple of Origen—Brick tea
—Mr. Atlasoff's snow-shoes—Promiscuous bathing—Bargaining for horses with
Jacob—Departure from Ochotsk—Forests of pine, &c., with swamp tea—Jacob's

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