

meant by "Portland Channel" instead of the inlet which now goes by the latter name.

Considerable topographical data are required for the establishment of the second section of the boundary, that between the Portland Channel of the treaty and the 141st degree of west longitude. We find on maps of the continent a line neatly traced between Alaska and British Columbia; it is yet to be settled, however, whether there is in this section a chain of mountains not more than ten marine leagues from the shore. Where such mountains exist, the boundary runs along their summit; where they do not, the line is parallel to the windings of the coast, at a distance not exceeding ten marine leagues. Note that a marine league is three geographical miles, or about 3.45 English or statute miles. Were a chain of mountains found, to mark the boundary all along, or for the greater part of the distance, the British authorities would be happy, for two reasons. The parallel chain of mountains would not leave the United States so wide a strip of territory along the Pacific as would the alternative line ten marine leagues from the shore, and the margin thus gained by Canada is probably rich in minerals. Then there is a probability that the highlands would cut across Lynn Canal, an inlet running far inland, and leave Britain another seaport on the Pacific.

Some years ago the two governments interested in the permanent delimitation

of southeastern Alaska agreed to make the necessary surveys, to establish the boundaries as defined by the Treaty of St. Petersburg. During the past three seasons Canadian surveyors, under the direction of Mr. W. F. King, D. T. S. have been securing data regarding area, distances and altitudes, between Portland Channel and Mt. St. Elias near the 141st meridian. U. S. survey parties have been engaged on the same work, and it is now announced that the commissioners, Mr. King and General Duffield, will have their report ready by the end of the present year. As they are simply dealing with facts, it is probable that they will be able to present a joint report. After the report is in, the work of the present commissioners is ended. The governments they represent are then to proceed to establish the boundary line in question. Whether this will be done by means of a commission, is not yet decided.

Now, reader, reference to the report of the International Boundary Commission brings you to Ottawa, and your trip to Alaska is over. All travellers, it is said, find a little to commend and much to blame, and so, no doubt, do you in "Arctic Alaska and Along its Boundary." Commendation and blame seem to have so far ever proved equally wholesome, if not equally palatable, to the college OWL, and so he may be relied upon to turn to good account his experience with the present article.

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