

report, and all preliminary introductions, narrative of the expedition, description of the great river along which the party traveled and its adjacent country, the trade and resources of the districts visited, the astronomical determinations, magnetic observations, and topography are all embodied in this, the general report, somewhat after the manner of a journal kept by a traveler. The inland passages of Alaska extend from Dixon Entrance to Cross Sound, a distance of about 330 miles, if measured between estuaries communicating with the Pacific Ocean; or from Dixon Entrance to the head of Chilkat and Chilkoot Inlets, a distance of about 375 miles, if measured within the limiting lines of latitude. Both measures are by the usually traveled steamboat route. The islands forming these numerous inland passages are known as the Alexander Archipelago, and with its adjacent mainland contains probably two-thirds the white population of Alaska Territory. The Indians inhabiting this same district speak the Thlinkit language, and, as a whole, are spoken of as Thlinkits, although divided into many sub-bands, each receiving its own particular name as Stickeens, Sitkas, Tongas, &c., each ruled independently by its own chief or chiefs in its own limited locality, and having but little sympathy in common. Among the whites of the country they are spoken of only by these names of sub-bands or clans, and in the same sense should they be considered by the military, for the reason noted, *i. e.*, their distinct and separate sovereignty as belligerent clans. Where intertribal alliances are likely to be formed as a result of a collision with one, this is noted in the particular tribe described wherever it could be ascertained. The Thlinkits were spoken of by the Russians as the Koloshes or Koloshians, and this designation is still occasionally heard in the Territory. In the Alexander Archipelago we visited the Tongas, Foxes (or Cape Fox Indians), Kootzuahoos, Hoonahs, Chilkats, Auks, Stickeens, and Sitkas, and they will be found considered separately under the proper head. The distance we traveled in this part of the Territory was 810 miles, consuming from May 29, 1883, to June 11, of the same year, and the distance traveled from Vancouver Barracks, Washington Territory, to the crossing of Dixon Entrance, by the route already indicated, was about 1,070 miles. These inland passages of the Alexander Archipelago connect with similar ones indenting the coast of British Columbia, connecting with Puget Sound, in Washington Territory, across the eastern extremity or head of the strait of Juan de Fuca, and by them, such transporting vessels as "sound boats," "bay-water boats," or even the lightest and fragile river steamers by watching favorable weather at occasional ocean entrances, can traverse this whole interior coast line from Chilkat, Alaska, to Olympia, Washington Territory, a distance of about 1,060 to 1,100 miles by the usually traveled channel. From Fort Townsend, in Puget Sound, the nearest military post to this portion of Alaskan waters, the distance to these waters at Dixon Entrance by the inland passage is a little over 600 miles, and could be made by a small but powerful