

bourhood of Lopatka, gave their own name to these islands, on first becoming acquainted with them. They are, according to Spanberg, twenty-two in number, without reckoning the very small ones. The Northernmost, called Shoomska, is not more than three leagues from the promontory Lopatka, and its inhabitants are a mixture of natives and Kamtschadales. The next to the South, called Paramousir, is inhabited by the true natives; their ancestors, according to a tradition among them, having come from an island a little farther to the South, called Onecutan.

Those two islands were first visited by the Russians in 1713, and at the same time brought under their dominion. The others in order, are at present made tributary down to Ooshesheer inclusive, as Mr. King was informed by the worthy pastor of Paratounca, who is their missionary, and visits them once in three years, and speaks of the islanders in terms of the highest commendation, representing them as a friendly, hospitable, generous, humane race of people, and excelling their Kamtschadale neighbours, not less in the formation of their bodies, than in docility and quickness of understanding. Though Ooshesheer is the southernmost island that the Russians have yet brought under their dominions, yet they trade to Oorooop, which is the eighteenth, and where there is a good harbour for ships of burthen. Beyond this, to the South, lies Nadeegda, which was represented by the Russians, as inhabited by a race of men remarkably hairy, and who, like those of Oorooop, live in a state of entire independence.

In the same direction, but inclining somewhat more to the Westward, lie a group of islands, which the Japanese call Jeso, a name which they also give to the whole chain of Islands between Kamtschatka and Japan. The southernmost, called Matmai, hath been long

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