

fied to have been by crossing an isthmus, and not by sailing round a promontory.

I come now to speak of what was observed in the voyage of Captain Cook. The first extraordinary circumstance noticed on arriving in Bering's Strait, was a sudden disappearance of the tides. To the south of Bering's Strait, both on the Asiatic and on the American side, we had experienced strong tides. Near one of the Aleutian islands, where the ships had anchored, a tide was found running at the rate of seven miles per hour (as measured by the log) smooth and unruffled; at the same time, in the middle of the channel between this island and the next, the rapidity of the stream kept the waters in a foam during four hours of the tide.

Bering's Strait is formed at the narrowest part by two points, one named Cape Prince of Wales, which is the westernmost land known of America; and the other named Cape East, being the most eastern known land of Asia. Whilst we were to the south, and within sight of the Cape Prince of Wales, the wind and current, being in contrary directions, raised a sea that frequently broke over the ships. On arriving within Cape Prince of Wales, the ships anchored, the east cape of Asia then bearing due west; and it is remarked by Captain Cook, that whilst the ships lay there at anchor, which was from six to nine in the evening, there was found little or no current; nor could it be perceived that the water either rose or fell. Afterwards, whilst to the northward of Bering's Strait, we always had soundings of moderate depth, which enabled us to measure the stream with great exactness; and we seldom found one running at