

westward, and spoke of an island not far distant, which he discovered two days after, and called St. Lawrence; but neither he nor Lieutenant Synd, who in 1767 visited this island, and was close to the main, seem to have thought it worth while to land or make further inquiry respecting this isolated nation. Billings, an officer in the Russian service, who had been with Cook in his voyage to the North Pacific, anchored in the Bay of St. Lawrence (not St. Lawrence Island) on the 4th August, 1790; he does not appear to have made any lengthened sojourn, nor to have endeavoured to learn much respecting the people; but proceeded at once to the River Kolyma, a journey which occupied six months, and thence to St. Petersburg. We have learned little concerning the Tchutski by his experience. Simeon Novikof and Ivan Baccof, proceeding in 1749 from Anadyrsk to Kamtchatka by sea, saw a few Tchutski upon the heights of their coast on the gulf.

These notices appear to comprehend nearly all that is known of this people, until the expedition of Wrangell, in 1821, when Matiusehin gained sufficient casual experience of them at the fair of Ostronowie and elsewhere, to create in his own mind and that of Baron Wrangell an intense desire to extend their knowledge of that extraordinary race.