

2nd vol. (1882), is represented a harpoon-point of bone and nephrite\* from Port Clarence (about 65° N. latitude, north of Norton Sound), and he says: † ‘Among these (*i. e.* the ethnographical objects obtained in Port Clarence by barter), may be mentioned bone etchings and carvings and several arrow-heads and other tools of a species of nephrite so puzzlingly like the well known nephrite from High Asia, that I am disposed to believe that it actually comes originally from that locality. In such a case, the occurrence of nephrite at Bering Strait is important, because it cannot be explained in any other way than by supposing that the tribes living here have carried the mineral with them from their original home in High Asia, or that during the stone age of High Asia, a like extended commercial intercommunication took place between the wild races as now exists, or at least some decades ago existed, along the northern parts of Asia and America.’

“Already in my essay, ‘Die Nephritfrage, kein ethnologisches Problem’ (March 1883), I expressed the following view: ‘Nephrite implements, from the Aleutian Islands, and from the Eskimo on the American side of Bering Strait, may just as well have come from sources in the New World,’ and that without trusting ourselves to pass judgment in advance on the matter. In the meanwhile, Mr. Baird’s ‘rough material’ was discovered (Ausland, 1883, p.p. 456, 540, 580), though as we shall see farther on, it was not nephrite, but only a mineral exteriorly very similar to nephrite. Capt. J. A. Jacobsen, however, brought from Alaska, real rough nephrite, which seems to set the question at rest.

“Prof. Arzruni was so good as to place at my disposal, the following statement:—

“‘According to kind communications of Capt. Jacobsen, green nephrite is known to the Eskimo *in situ*, in the extreme north-west of Alaska. Capt. Jacobsen obtained a number of objects, made of this mineral, and also some

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\* Page 229, Fig. 3, of English translation, by A. Leslie, London, 1881.

† Page 236 of English translation.