

whereas, the westerly wind does not bring them from the north-east coast of *Asia* under four or five days: 4thly, That certain birds come regularly from the east every year in the same months, and, after continuing some months on the coast of *Asia*, return eastward with a like regularity.

Captain *Beerings*, and his Lieutenant likewise, took observations, at *Kamtschatka*, of two eclipses of the moon in the years 1728 and 1729, which helped me to state the longitude of that eastern extremity of *Asia*, with all the precision which the nature of these observations made by seamen, and with their own instruments, would admit of; but these first determinations have been since confirmed by observations, on *Jupiter's* satellites, taken in that place with the utmost accuracy by my brother and some *Russians*, conversant in these kinds of observations, and who were provided with the best of instruments.

After I had, near twenty years ago, got these first informations of the longitude of *Kamtschatka*, by means of Captain *Beerings's* map and journal, I made use of them in constructing the map now under view*, representing the eastern extremity of *Asia*, with the opposite coast of *North-America*, in order to shew at once what still remains for discovery between these two large parts of the world. This map, in 1731, I had the honour of presenting to the Empress *Ann* and the Senate, in order to animate the *Russians* to undertake these discoveries, and it took effect; this Princess ordering a second voyage to be made according to the plan which I had drawn up for it.

In this memoir, I pointed out three different courses to be steered, in order to discover what remained unknown. One of these courses was from the south of *Kamtschatka*, making directly for

* See the note at the end of this memoir.