

THE RUSSIAN DISCOVERIES, &c. 23

exist in the eastern coast of Siberia*. If therefore it should be deemed probable, that the Kovyma is represented too much to the north and west, the distance between the mouth of that river and Cape North must be considerably less than is usually imagined †.

It now remains to determine the unknown coast between Cape North and Shelatskoi Nofs, the most eastern point traced by the Russians in the Frozen Ocean, to take a more accurate delineation of the shore between Shelatskoi Nofs and the Kovyma than has been effected by Shalaurof ‡, and to fix, by astronomical observations, the longitude and latitude of the mouth of the Kovyma.

2. The principal objects of examination on the American coast are the following parts of that continent, which Cook was prevented from exploring. That space reaching from Woody Point in latitude $50^{\circ} 1''$, and longitude $229^{\circ} 26''$, to latitude $33^{\circ} 22''$, longitude $225^{\circ} 14''$, comprizes $3^{\circ} 22''$ of latitude, and $4^{\circ} 12''$ of longitude; and is the more remarkable, as it contains the place where geographers have ascribed the strait of Admiral de Fonte. "And although there is little reason to give credit," as Cook expresses himself, "to such vague and improbable stories, as carry their own confutation §;" yet it is to be regretted, that he was prevented from entirely disproving those pretended discoveries which some persons still consider as authentic.

The shore between Shoal-Nefs, in latitude $60'$, longitude $198^{\circ} 10''$, and Point Shallow Water, in latitude $63'$, longitude $198'$, is also entirely undescribed; and what renders this coast an in-

* See these questions fully and ably discussed by Captain King, Vol. III.

† Cook's Voyage, Vol. II. p. 263—270.

‡ See Shalaurof's Voyage and Chart in my Russian Discoveries.

§ Vol. II. p. 343.