

with this difference, that instead of the great and constant breadth of the Atlantic, it is studded with large and small islands, separated by small bays, the largest of which (that of Copper Island) is about 200 miles (350 wersts) broad, the breadth of the others being as follows :—

1	100 miles (175 wersts).
1	70 miles ($122\frac{1}{2}$ wersts).
3	50 miles ($27\frac{1}{2}$ wersts).
1	30 miles ($52\frac{1}{2}$ wersts).
8	20 miles (25 wersts).
4 ..	5 to 10 miles ($8\frac{3}{4}$ to $17\frac{1}{4}$ wersts).
32 ..	5 miles ($8\frac{3}{4}$ wersts).
30	1 mile ($1\frac{3}{4}$ wersts).

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Total 80 islands.

These islands are mostly extinguished volcanoes, mountainous, rocky, and woodless. Some of them are inhabited by Aleutes, and some are Russian and American depots. The sea in this part, with the exception of some of the bays, is never frozen over, but sometimes small pieces of thin ice, driven in from rivers, float there, and also sometimes real polar ice.

Without entering into a topographical description of the climate, &c., there, this route may, under all circumstances, be considered as the best and safest for laying down submarine cables.

Such a line can be constructed either by connecting these islands by short submarine cables and aerial lines on the land, or without the latter, by selecting some suitable points (such as ports and inhabited places) through which a long submarine cable could be conducted.