

before, DESCHNEW was believed to have performed the whole of his voyage from the Kolyma to the Anadir by sea.

Many reports had circulated in Siberia of the existence of northern lands in the Icy sea; but persons sent purposely to examine, had not found land, which much discredited the reports. A chart in which a northern land was marked was however published at Petersburg, about the year 1626, by a Colonel SCHESTAKOW, of the Jakutsk Kossaks, a man of great ability as well as enterprise. Neither SCHESTAKOW nor his chart, however, are favourably noticed by Mr. MULLER, who was in general a candid historian. On SCHESTAKOW's chart, the north land was marked with the name of the Large Country. M. de LISLE gave credit to SCHESTAKOW's map for the Large Country, which he makes appear on his own chart as a part of America, extending westward beyond the Kolyma.

Between the years 1734 and 1739, three expeditions were undertaken to ascertain the limits of Asia to the north and north-east, from which no advantage was reaped, and they were attended with circumstances of extraordinary distress and misery. These undertakings show that the boundary of Asia was not then regarded as ascertained. In 1764, a chart was sent from Siberia to Petersburg, which again showed a continuation of the American continent stretching far to the west, and opposite to the Siberian coast of the Icy sea.

Between the years 1760 and 1765, no less than four attempts were made by one and the same individual, a Russian merchant, named SHALAUROF, to sail from the Icy sea round the north-east of Asia. In the last of these attempts this en-