

in the return flow of the great current, and, as is shown by the character of the drift-stuff thrown on their beaches, these Japanese wrecks had very likely once been near the American shores.

I will here mention two dismasted vessels met at sea, which were furnished me by the kindness of Mr. Brooks, but I have been unable to ascertain the authorities from which he derived them.

"In 1848, Capt. Cox, of New London, Conn., picked up 15 or 20 Japanese, from a disabled junk, in lat. 40° N., lon. 170° W. He kept them on board during a cruise in the Okotsk sea and finally landed them at Lahaina."

"In 1855, Capt. Brooks, of Brig Leverett, picked up an abandoned junk in lat. 42° N., lon. 170° W." Both these are about in the longitude of Alaska, and south of the Aleutian Islands."

If I had time and opportunity, I have no doubt I might greatly extend this list. These cases have been gathered in the course of a few weeks, mainly by inquiry among my personal friends and amidst the prosecution of an active business. The further I extended my enquiries the greater results I obtained, and I am convinced that a much larger number of cast-aways will eventually come to our knowledge, besides the many which have perished from exposure, or died in captivity among the savages.

Many wrecked junks have also been found on the islands nearer to Japan, but as they are foreign to my purpose, I deem them only worthy of general mention, as increasing the sum of probabilities. Perry found them on the Bonin Islands. See Hawkes's account of Perry's Exped., Vol. I., p. 199. Brooks mentions them among the islands between