

Plenipotentiaries referred when they spoke of the position of the Hudson Bay factories, for the title of the map of North America says it includes "all the new discoveries on the interior parts of North America," and Vancouver's charts are confessedly only coast-line surveys.

H. S. Tanner, a leading United States geographer, who published an Atlas (now in the Royal Geographical Society's library) of North America, at Washington in 1822 (corrected to 1825) speaks in his preface of "Arrowsmith and of Vancouver;" he refers to the former as "the eminent British geographer," and says of his map of 1795, corrected to 1814: "This chart, although the most complete at the period of its first publication, is rendered nearly obsolete by the great quantity of charts and other works on various parts of the American coast which have appeared within a few years."

As will be understood from what immediately follows, Tanner's depreciatory remark did not apply to the south-west coast of Alaska, but to the interior of the United States, &c., for he goes on to notice "The Atlas to Vancouver's Voyages," saying:—"These charts, with the exception of a few points" (none of these points affect the subject of this report) "to be noticed hereafter, were used almost exclusively" (by himself) "for the western coast below the latitude of 60° N. The high estimation in which Vancouver's charts are deservedly held by men of science renders any remarks here, in their commendation, entirely superfluous."

Tanner took special interest in the north-west coast of America, for he discusses the question of the claim of Russia raised by the Imperial Ukase of 1821, whence originated the Conventions of 1824-5 between Russia and Great Britain, and between Russia and the United States.

It is thus apparent that both Russian and British authorities, when negotiating the Convention of 1825, had access to the most recent and trustworthy sources of topographical knowledge with respect to the north-west coast of North America.

The Russian authorities referred during the negotiations to British charts and the British authorities referred to Russian charts.

The water boundary is described by the 3rd Article of the Convention in the following terms:—"La ligne de démarcation entre les Possessions des Hautes Parties Contractantes, sur la côte du continent et les Îles de l'Amérique Nord-Ouest, sera tracée ainsi qu'il suit:—

"À partir du point le plus méridional de l'île dite *Prince of Wales*, lequel point se trouve sous la parallèle de 54^{me} degré, 40 minutes de latitude Nord, et entre le 131^{me} et le 133^{me} degré de longitude Ouest (Méridien de Greenwich), la dite ligne remontera au Nord le long de la passe dite *Portland Channel* jusqu'au point de la terre ferme où elle atteint le 56^{me} degré de latitude Nord."

The Prince of Wales Island above referred to is recognized at once by the recorded latitude and longitude of its southern coast.

The island is the principal feature of what Vancouver named the Prince of Wales' Archipelago (see Vancouver 8vo Edn., Vol. IV., p. 273 and Chart VII of Vancouver's Atlas.) 4to Edn., Vol. II., p. 419

One of the earliest map references to what Vancouver had called "Prince of Wales's Archipelago" as "*Prince of Wales Island*" is to be found in the Atlas of Tanner, already alluded to, published at Washington in 1822, and improved in 1825.

The first record of official use of the name "*Prince of Wales Island*" appears to be in the first *Projet* submitted in 1824 by the Russian Plenipotentiaries, in which the name "*Île du Prince de Galles*" occurs; and subsequently the name was adopted by the British Plenipotentiary.

Vancouver correctly supposed that the lands to which he had given the name "*Prince of Wales's Archipelago*," did not form a single island; but he had not verified his supposition; and consequently, on his chart, their sub-division into separate islands does not appear.

Hence it was natural for the Plenipotentiaries to refer to the Archipelago as an island.

Vancouver's Voyage of Discovery, 8vo Ed., Vol. IV., pp. 272-3, says:—"Its" (the Duke of Clarence's Strait) "western shore is an extensive tract of land, which (though not visibly so to us), I have reason to believe is much broken and divided by water, forming as it were a distinct body in the great archipelago. This I have honoured with the name of '*Prince of Wales's Archipelago*.'"

The name Prince of Wales's "*Island*" appears to have been first adopted on British Admiralty charts in 1861, in the case of No. 2430, Vancouver Island to Corlova Bay, originally published in 1856; and so introduced from a Russian chart of 1849.