

anchoring under one of the Alp-like cliffs of the Aleutian islands:

* * * * *

Without going into further details of the cruise, I will state that on the previous year five unsuccessful attempts were made by the *Corwin* to reach Herald island, and that Wrangel island was approached to within about twenty miles. This "problematical northern land," the existence of which the Russian Admiral Wrangel reported from accounts of Siberian natives, and which he tried unsuccessfully to find; a land that Captain Kellett, of Her Britannic Majesty's ship *Herald*, in 1849, thought he saw, but which, under more favorable circumstances of weather and position, was not seen by the United States ship *Vincennes*; a land, in fact, that from the foregoing statements and from the imperfect accounts of whalers we had begun to regard as a myth, was actually seen; and I shall never forget the tinge of regret I felt when the necessity of the position obliged the withdrawal of the ship and I took a last lingering look at the ice-bound and unexplored coast, fully realizing at the time the joyous satisfaction that must animate the discoverer and explorer of an unknown land.

However, better luck was in store; for Captain Kellett's discovery was afterwards completed by the *Corwin*. I now purpose to narrate a few circumstances attending this first landing on Wrangel island, which may be best told by further reference to Herald island. Captain Kellett, the only person known to have landed at the latter place previously to this account, reports that the extent he had to walk over was not more than thirty feet, from which space he scrambled up a short distance; that with the time