

through a wild and uninhabited country, the erection of such a line would be impracticable.

Although the route *viâ* Sachaline is more southerly, yet it is too long, more expensive than that *viâ* Bolcherezk, and likewise more inconvenient, as it leads through the wild steppes of the Curilian Islands, which are still uninhabited.

However, this line appears to offer some advantages, as it could be connected with all the Russian frontier points in the Pacific, yet it would by no means supersede that *viâ* Bolcherezk, which would require the following lengths of cable :—

	Wersts.	Miles.
From the Amoor to Kamtschatka.....	1,400	800
From Kamtschatka to Aliaska in America	3,282	1,875
From Aliaska to Reine Charlotte Island...	2,300	1,315
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Total.....	6,982	3,990

Or about 7,000 wersts, or 4,670 English miles, or 1,000 German miles, or 4,000 nautical miles.

Instead of the aerial lines through Sachaline and Kamtschatka, underground lines would perhaps have to be substituted, owing to the wildness of that part of the country. These underground lines would therefore have to be considered as cable lines.

### TELEGRAPH TO CHINA AND JAPAN.

The aerial line through Siberia, which the Russian Government is at present constructing, leads to Japan and China, and offers the quickest communication with Europe. Messages from Japan can be sent to the Russian ports of Wladivostok and St. Olga, which are situated in