



2152



U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

J. C. Mendenhall, Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Lope Sheet No. *2152*

LOCALITY:

Stikine River
Between the Big Bend
the Popoff Glacier

1893.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

John E. Math
assistant

2152

This sheet represents a section of the Stikine River and its valley between the Big Bend and a point nearly abreast of the Popoff Glacier. The mountainous boundaries of this valley were surveyed by Assistant Pratt and Sub Assistant Himes and only the line of junction between them and the low lands along the river are here shown. The valley is extremely flat & is alluvial in character. The river is very swift and subject to great changes in height according as the weather is wet or dry. It carries a great deal of silt. The valley lands are densely covered with alders & cottonwoods - some of the latter growing to a very great size.

The river is constantly changing its channel and during an average stage & a high stage the process of tearing down ~~silt~~ banks & forming new ones goes constantly on.

While the triangulation was being executed many of the signals had to be re-established on account of the incessant change in the banks. At low water sand bars appear in every direction and as the great cottonwoods & other debris, from above ground in them it does not take a long time to transform what was a sand bar ~~at~~ low water to tree covered island.

On the river reach shown in this sheet there is only one house & that is a flimsily built cabin at the mouth of the Samenai River occupied by Indians in the Spring when they are hunting ducks, geese & bear in the neighborhood. The Indians have their regular homes in Fort Wrangel and only visit this section for hunting & trapping purposes & then they usually live in tents. A single steamboat which goes up the river to Telegraph Creek inside the British Possession, represents all the tonnage of the Stikine at this date. April 6th 1894

John E. McClatch
Assistant -