

2504

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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *2504*

LOCALITY:

*Norton Sound - Mt. Inineuk
to Cape Darby*

1900.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

J. J. Gilbert

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT. 52380

Topography of Norton Sound.

Sheet No. 6.

Scale H 1-40,000.

Sheet No. 6. extends from a point on the shore-line of Norton Bay near station Thor. around Cape Darby into Golofnin Bay, connecting with the survey of that Bay executed in 1899 by Assist: J. F. Pratt.

The shore-line is mostly rocky, and difficult, with here and there a small patch of gravel beach. For a mile or two at the N. E. limit of the sheet, the gravel beaches are nearly continuous, the rocky points separating them being low and narrow. Drift wood collects on all these beaches, and most of them have small streams of water, and all of them have been extensively used as camp ground by the army of prospectors who march back and forth constantly, in search of Gold.

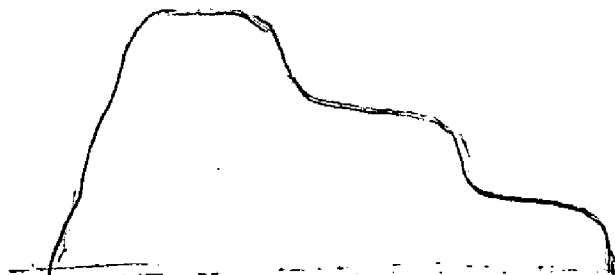
Along this shore was the most difficult work of the season, the necessity of climbing over so many high cliffs, and clambering over so many big boulders, made progress slow and exhausting.

There is no beach on the S. E. face of Cape Darby, and the work was done from the top of the bluff.

Cape Darby is bare, much of it bare rock-which the tundra has not yet covered, -there is a low vine-like brush filling the ravines, which is hard to get through with instruments. About five miles N. E. from Cape Darby a pine or fir forest begins, which continues, with little interruption to the end of the sheet. This is the most extensive forest and contains the largest trees we encountered during the season.

Cape Darby, estimated to be 600 feet high, -though probably higher, is apparently composed of three separate masses of earth piled one on top of the other; -looking from the South, a section of the point would show an outline much like this:

It is noticed that the hill is steepest on the Golofnin Bay side and that the East slope shows a series of steps. One feature is the outward curves on the slopes as contrasted with the usual inward curve. It is evident that there has been no wash, on these slopes, since their upheaval.



At one point, indicated on the sheet, there is a whole cliff of fine white marble, at another is abundance of limestone, while elsewhere there is galena in quantity.

The shores N.E. of Cape Darby are exposed to both Northerly and South-Easterly storms.

The water is deep around Cape Darby, the deepest we found in the seasons work.

J. J. Gilbert

Assist: C. & G. Survey, Chief of Party.