DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: SE. Alaska

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
Topographic | Sheet No. 4240

LOCALITY
North of Icy Pt.
Grillon Glacier to Vicinity of Lituya Bay

1926

CHIEF OF PARTY
A.M. Sobieralski
NAME OF GLACIER COLLING DOWN TO WATER'S EDGE IN THE GULF OF ALASKA BETWEEN LITUYA BAY AND IGY POINT.

The following is quoted from the Pacific Coast Pilot, Part I, 1883, on page 201, second paragraph, second sentence: "The sides of these arms bear numerous glaciers, some of great extent, and a few reaching to the sea-beach itself. Among these is the La Perouse Glacier named by the U.S. Coast Survey in 1875. This glacier has its snow situated on a saddle of the range some 8,000 feet above the sea, nearly due north from Igy Point, from which it descends very rapidly during the first three miles forming a veritable ice cascade at one spot, where a black island of rock projects through it. For the remaining 5 or 6 miles of its length the slope is much more gradual and a number of branches are received from which are derived a number of lateral moraines. Near the sea it becomes confluent with the foot of the Crillon Glacier and ceases just at the beach, behind which its foot is seen black with mud, covered with stones and large fragments of rock and about two miles in width."

On page 202, beginning with the eighth line: "The foot of this ridge is buried beneath an immense glacier, whose foot extends in a direction directly transverse to the main axis of the glacier. One part extends East Southeast and merges with the foot of La Perouse Glacier, the other in a westerly direction to the Northeast extreme of Lituya Bay. South from it, between Lituya Bay and the foot of La Perouse Glacier is a range of low densely-wooded hills with some level land seaward from them. This low land increases in width North Northwest and South Southeast, westward from La Perouse Glacier, the shore-line trending in a generally West South direction sixteen miles to Harbor Point at the entrance of Lituya Bay."

On page 203, sixteenth line from the bottom: "The shores of the arms are bold, the topography precipitous, a large glacier occupies the head of each arm—that to the westward is the foot of Crillon Glacier."

Sheet No. 18 of the International Boundary Survey, extending from Igy Cape to Cape Fairweather, calls this glacier La Perouse Glacier.

The 1932 edition of the Alaska Coast Pilot, Part I, refers to this glacier as Crillon Glacier and the one about two miles further south, which does not come down to the water's edge, as La Perouse Glacier. Neither of these names appear on the Coast and Geodetic Survey chart concerned.

In my opinion there is no doubt that Dall intended the name La Perouse for the glacier which comes down to the water's edge, the main reason being the last sentence of page 198 above in which he describes other features in their relation to "La Perouse Glacier" and not "Crillon Glacier". Dall's selection of the name for that ice mass is not so sound when viewed from the standpoint of the topography and the quantity of ice furnished by the two principal peaks, Mt. Crillon and Mt. La Perouse, Mt. Crillon furnishing the greater amount by far.
However, I do not think that the name can be changed at the present time since it has already been printed on the International Boundary Map and also on a map compiled by the Institute of Geographical Exploration of Harvard University, a copy of which is being obtained for the Bureau files. A smaller scale edition can also be seen in the publication "The Geog. Journal," Vol. 87, No. 6, June, 1936. Here the name La Perouse Glacier starts almost at the peak of Mt. Crillon, and the names of North Crillon and South Crillon Glacier appear on two glaciers which join and empty into Lituya Bay and Crillon Lake.

[Signature]

Nov 5, 1936
The work on this sheet was done under orders dated Feb. 12, 1926 to the Commanding Officer of the Str. SURVEYOR. The sheet extends from Glacier to Add. The shoreline consists of sand beach strewn with boulders in certain sections, and with one section of ledge rock. The area is wooded, with spruce, fir and deciduous trees to an elevation of 1000 feet. Between 1000 and 1500 feet, this growth thins out and consists of stunted bushes and grass above the 1500 foot contour. Due to the fact that high trees grow close to the high water line, the land forms could not be seen, consequently no contours.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Glion Glacier, at the southern limits of the sheet reaches to within a few meters of the high water line. The face of the Glacier is steep and about 200 feet high. Between the face and Glacier the face of the glacier is very dirty and from a mile off-shore it appears as a bare hill. The rest of the Glacier is white and is very conspicuous from the sea. The stream near Jug is swift and deep, and carries a great deal of sediment to the sea, causing the water to appear murky.

North of Fun and east of Emo is located a conspicuous bare cliff, grey in color. This cliff shows for a considerable distance and makes a good landmark for inshore navigation.
SURVEYING METHODS
The traverse started at Glacier and extends the full length of the sheet. The traverse stations were used for Control and only the features were rodded in.
An error was made in the original computation of the traverse, so the positions were in error when plotted on the sheet, although correct in respect to each other. The projection was shifted to take care of this discrepancy.

NEW NAMES
There were no new names.

Respectfully submitted,

E. H. Kirsch
Aid, C. & G. Survey
NAME OF GLACIER COMING DOWN TO WATER'S EDGE IN THE GULF OF ALASKA BETWEEN LITUYA BAY AND ICY POINT.

The following is quoted from the Pacific Coast Pilot, Part I, 1883, on page 201, second paragraph, second sentence: "The sides of these alps bear numerous glaciers, some of great extent, and a few reaching to the sea-beach itself. Among these is the La Percouse Glacier named by the U. S. Coast Survey in 1875. This glacier has its néva situated on a saddle of the range some 8,000 feet above the sea, nearly due north from Icy Point, from which it descends very rapidly during the first three miles forming a veritable ice cascade at one spot, where a black island of rock projects through it. For the remaining 5 or 6 miles of its length the slope is much more gradual and a number of branches are received from which are derived a number of lateral moraines. Near the sea it becomes confluent with the foot of the Crillon Glacier and ceases just at the beach, behind which its foot is seen black with mud, covered with stones and large fragments of rock and about two miles in width."

On page 202, beginning the eighth line: "The foot of this ridge is buried beneath an immense glacier, whose foot extends in a direction directly transverse to the main axis of the glacier. One part extends East Southeast and merges with the foot of La Perouse Glacier, the other in a westerly direction to the Northeast extreme of Lituya Bay. South from it, between Lituya Bay and the foot of La Perouse Glacier is a range of low densely-wooded hills with some level land seaward from them. This low land increases in width, North Northeast and South Southwest, westward from La Perouse Glacier, the shore-line trending in a generally West South direction sixteen miles to Harbor Point at the entrance of Lituya Bay."

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Sheet No. 16 of the International Boundary Survey, extending from Icy Cape to Cape Fairweather, calls this glacier La Perouse Glacier.

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In my opinion there is no doubt that Dall intended the name La Percouse for the glacier which comes down to the water's edge, the main reason being the last sentence of Page 2 above in which he describes other features in their relation to "La Percouse Glacier" and not "Crillon Glacier". Dall's selection of the name for that ice mass is not so sound when viewed from the standpoint of the topography and the quantity of ice furnished by the two principal peaks, Mt. Crillon and Mt. La Percouse, Mt. Crillon furnishing the greater amount by far.
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TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No.  ...

REGISTER NO. 4240

State... S. E. Alaska

General locality... North of Icy Point

Locality... Between A Glacier and A dd

Scale 1:20,000 Date of survey... September... 1926

Vessel... Str. SURVEYOR

Chief of Party... A. A. Sobieralski

Surveyed by... E. H. Kirsch

Inked by... E. H. Kirsch

Heights in feet above MSL to ground...

Form line interval... 100 feet

Instructions dated... Feb. 12... 1926

Remarks:

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