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COMMUNICATION

To the Managing Editor of the AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW:

SIR: The reviewer of my book, *Russian Expansion on the Pacific*, in the April number of the AMERICAN HISTORICAL REVIEW, XX. 627, charges me with erroneously estimating the distances between certain places named. I am willing to confess that the statement regarding the distance "across Holy Cross Bay" is erroneous. But the distances mentioned on page 78 are derived, and are there stated to be derived, from a letter from the United States Hydrographic Office, dated October 1, 1909, which is textually quoted in foot-note 177, on page 78. That foot-note reads:

Information obtained from the United States Hydrographic Office, October 1, 1909:

"Replying to your letter of September 22, 1909, in regard to the distance in nautical miles from Koluima River to the Anaduir River following the windings of the coast, the following information is furnished:

"Koluima River to East Cape	1115 miles
"East Cape to Anaduir River	1045 miles
Total	2160 miles"

As it is of some historical importance to know what the actual distances in question are, I call attention to the fact that the Hydrographic Office has in this letter testified, as it was requested by me to testify, as to the distances *following the windings of the coast*. My object in asking the Hydrographic Office for the information in this form was to learn what the distance would be if traversed in a small boat, proceeding as such a boat would be likely to proceed. In a more recent letter, April 9, 1915, the Acting Hydrographer, after confirming the statements I have just made, adds:

A review of the distances stated in these letters does not disclose any reason for change, except that when the measurement of the length of the coast line between East Cape and Anadir Bay is not carried into a greater degree of detail than the measurement of the length of coast line from Kolima River to East Cape, it would probably not exceed 800 nautical miles, instead of reaching the amount of 1045 miles.

Very truly yours,
F. A. GOLDER.