



Fig. 12.48. Map of North America dating from 1666. “A New and Exact Map of America and Islands thereunto belonging, Published and are to be Sold by Thomas Ienner at the South Entrance into Royal Exchange of London. 1666. W. Hollar fecit. Taken from [1116], map 15 on page 29.

This California, was in times past thought to be a part of y^e Continent and so made in all maps, but by further discoveries was found to be an Iland long 1700 leagues,

Fig. 12.49. Fragment of the above map with the legend. Taken from [1116], map 15 on page 29.

(covering California and “transforming the peninsula into an island”) results from the fact that these lands had belonged to the Russian Horde and remained closed for the Western European cartographers of the XVII-XVIII century, up until the defeat of “Pougachev”.

We witness the same to be the case with the next map of the American Northwest in the atlas ([1116]). This map dates from 1680, qv in fig. 12.50. It also falsely depicts California as an island. The Bering Strait is absent; the Western and Central part of North

America are covered by a gigantic blank spot that extends deep into the ocean. The northern coastline is absent as well.

The next map dates from 1692 (see fig. 12.51). Same old story – the erroneous drawing of California as an island. European cartographers of the XVII century haven’t got a clue about the geography of the American Northwest. The coastline is absent; the alleged coast of Japan is drawn right next to California, which is perfectly incorrect.

The next map that depicts California has no exact



Fig. 12.50. Map of America dating from 1680. *Nova Orbis Tabula in lucem edita a F. de Wit*. Cartographer: Frederic de Wit. Taken from [1116], map 16 on page 30.

dating in the atlas ([1116]), and is presumed to date from the epoch of 1698 and later (see fig. 12.52). California is still an island. The American Northwest remains blank, which indicates that Europeans had no access to these parts.

The next map with California present upon it dates from 1710 ([1116], see fig. 12.53). California is still

misrepresented as an island; we see the legend “Parts Unknown” written over the blank spot. No coastline as yet.

Next we have the map of 1720 ([1116], see fig. 12.54). The geography of California remains unaltered, and the blank spot is still there, despite the fact that the East Coast of North America, likewise the