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JOHN WORK

Journal of a Voyage from Fort George to
the Northward.

Nov. 18 to Dec. 30, 1824.

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Transcribed by: *Gladya M. Fay.*



Journal of a Voyage from Fort George
to the Northward, Winter
1824

Novr 1824 Governor Simpson having determined to send an Expedition to the Northward for the purpose of discovering the Entrance of Fraser's River, and ascertaining the possibility of Navigating that River with boats, and also of examining the coast between Ft George & Fraser's River as far as practicable,- James McMillan Esqr was appointed to command the Expedition which consisted of

	Thos. McKay)	
	F. N. Annance)	Clerks
	John Work)	
	Michiel Laframbois		Interpreter
1	Pierre L Etan		
2	Jos. Portneuf		Abanaku
3	Alexis Aubichon		
4	Pierre Villandri		
5	J. B. Proveau		
6	Peter Wagner		
7	F. X. Condon		
8	Pierre Karogaragati		- Jr.
9	Louis Shatakorata		Jr.

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10	Wm. Johnston	Englishman
11	Seguin [?]	Lederonte
12	Cawano	Islander
13	Louis Anawaro	Jr.
14	Pierre Karaguaro	Jr.
15	Chas. Jaundeau	
16	Louis Dromelea	
17	Andre Sanctum	
18	Chas. Rondeau	
19	Pierre Potvin	
20	Ettiene Aneoga	Jr.
21	Louis Kanateohe	Jr.
22	Louis Vivit	
23	Peo Peow	Islander
24	Thos. Togauche	Jr.
25	Thos. Tawacton	Jr.
26	Jos. Loui Abanaku	
27	Andre Le Chappel	
28	J.B. Dubrois	
29	Joseph Despard	
30	Leo Depuis	
31	Jacques Potvin	
32	Louis Shorokorta	Jr.
33	Joseph Grey	Jr.
34	Bazil Poiner	
35	Momonta	Islander
36	Cannon	American

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Besides the above George an Iroquoy Freehunter and his slave also accompany the party on account of his being acquainted with the Coast part of the way. The Voyage is to be performed in three boats the only loading of which consists of [blank in MS.] Kegs Pease, [blank in MS.] Kegs Oatmeal [blank in MS.] Bags Flour [blank in MS.] Kegs Pork [blank in MS.] Kegs Grease, [blank in MS.] Kegs Rum, [blank in MS.] Keg Butter, [blank in MS.] Kegs Sugar, [blank in MS.] Bags Biscuit, [blank in MS.] Bags Pemican. In all [blank in MS.] day's Provisions.

Pemican
Thursdy 18

Everything being in readiness the Expedition left Fort George at a quarter past One Oclock and in 2 hours and 10 Minutes reached the Portage in Bakers Bay a distance of not less than 14 Miles. This Portage is about [blank in MS.] miles to the Northward of Cape Disappointment. This Portage is made to avoid doubling the Cape, which is not practicable with our boats. Though the wind did not blow very strong there was a heavy swell in the middle of the river, Mr. Kennedy Accompanied in a boat to Bakers Bay & stopped with us for the night. It was drizzling rain the after part of the day with some showers

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Friday 19

Weighty rain all day & blowing fresh in the afternoon from the Eastard [sic].

Commenced carrying the boats and cargoes across a Portage of 1860 yds to a small Lake about half a mile long. This Portage was wet & dirty but in dry weather it would be a fine road. From this little Lake part of the people carried part of the cargo, while the remainder of the people with the boats and the rest of the property proceeded down a small creek that receives its waters from the Lake. This creek is so very narrow that the boats could scarcely be got dragged through it and all the property had to be carried the greater part of the way, the road along this little creek which runs through a little Swampy plain, is very soft and wet. We have got only about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the way across the portage. The distance we have made from the little Lake is 4200 paces in a direction nearly N. by E.

The boats were carried part of the way & draged [sic] part of the way through the Creek.

Mr. Kennedy, who came to see us across the river, took leave of us at the Little Lake.

Abundance of geese and ducks are along this little river & swamp, Mr. McKay killed three & Mr. Annance 1 goose. Some parts of the road there were a good many cranberries.

Novr 1824
Satdy. 20

Blew a storm in the night with weighty showers of rain. Fair weather in the morning but very weighty rain afterwards. Wind S.E.

The people resumed transporting the property and boats to where the tide came up the little river, a distance of 1218 yards, here all the property was embarked, & at 440 yards farther down the passengers also embarked her[e] the creek began to widen & a strong flood tide made it sufficiently deep for the boats. About two miles farther we came to the entrance of Grey's Bay, down which w[e] proceeded about 9 miles and encamped about 2 Oclock P.M. at the entrance of a little river on the West side of the Bay. Our reasons for stopping so early was its being too late to cross the Bay & there being no probability of getting water farther on. The Wind being favourable the sails were hoisted about an hour. The little valley through which we passed yesterday & today is here & there clothed with willows which some places nearly choak [sic] up the river, in some parts it is clear & clothed with verdure in several places it is very swampy on

The flood
tide current
so strong in
the lower end
of the little
river that we
could
scarcely stem
it.

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account of the heavy rain and the tide flowing over its lower end - The part of the Bay which we have passed through seems to be from 4 to 6 or 7 miles wide On the W. side the shores are flat and covered with wood, principally a kind of pine to the waters edge. Wood of the same description also extends to the Waters edge on the E. side but the shores in some places appear steeper and seem to be composed of a reddish clay.

Our general course all day was nearly due North.

Here there is a small village of Cheenooks consisting of 5 inhabited and 1 uninhabited house.

Sunday 21

Fair weather, a fine gentle breeze of wind from the S.E. Some weighty rain in the night. As it would have been too long to wait for the tides rising sufficiently high, the boats and property were carried about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile, and we were on the water at 8 Oclock Our courses were as follows N.E. 5 Miles, which was across to the East side of the Bay, then along the East side of it N.N.W. 6 Miles, W.N.W. 4 Miles, N.N.W. 5 Miles

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and W.N.W. 8 Miles which brought us to the Northern a point which forms the entrance of the Bay on the East side at 1 O'clock, this is a low point about 2 Miles across & has such a heavy surf breaking upon it, particularly that from the Ocean on its North side that it is impracticable to take boats round with any degree of safety, the cargoes were therefore carried nearly across the point a distance of 3300 yards. The labour of carrying will not end here as the sea is breaking with such violence on the shore, that that business likely had to be continued a good while. Notwithstanding this breach of the sea on the beach, the wind if [sic] off the land and not blowing very strong. The road in this portage is very good, the ground is sandy, with some fir pines & willows growing upon it - Grey's Bay widens greatly towards its entrance, it is in some parts not less than 15 Miles. The E. shore appears still flat near the water, the bank[s] on the W. side are a little higher, & in some places would be difficult to land as they are so steep. In crossing the entrance of two bays, before we came to the portage, the sea ran very high, the waves were very high but as they did not break, we shipped no water.

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Monday 22

Stormy with very weighty rain in the night, and blowing fresh with some showers during the day. Wind Southerly.

All hands were at work at an early hour part carrying the property 3870 yards N.N.W. farther on the portage, & part clearing a road along a little river so that the boats might be got through that way in preference to attempting the sea shore. About noon all the people were sent for the boats which they brought with great labour a distance of about 3 miles the greater part of which they had to be dragged through places almost entirely dry or little better than swamps. Tomorrow it is intended to carry them to the sea shore & try to get them along as the Indians do their canoes, which is to conduct them along between the beach & the shore while thus employed the waves often break over both them & their canoes. The road through which the goods were carried today is very good & lies along the edge of the wood, which is about from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the shore. Geese are plentiful 20 were killed they are mostly the small grey geese & very lean, however provided a kettle for the men. Two of the men, Vandit & little Loui are lame.

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TuesdY 23

It was dark
when the men
returned from
the boats.

Light clouds fine fair weather, light wind from the S.E. At daylight all the people were employed carrying the boats from the woods where they were left yesterday to the sea shore, afterwards part of the men 6 per boat conducted them along shore in the inside of the breakers, where they had just water enough to float them to the other end of the portage. One of the boats was left some distance on this side of the others. In performing this business part of the men stopped in the boat with poles to keep her right & to watch the waves, while the rest dragged her along with a line the swells were often nearly upsetting her. The surges often flowed in about the men at the line till they were up to the middle in water. The remainder of the people were employed carrying the property a distance of 4620 yards N.N.W. The road still continues very good.

Mr. Annance went to seek Elk but saw no appearance of any. he represents the country as low & swampy & unfit for the residence of Elk, 5 Geese were killed, the same kind as yesterday, & equally lean.

One of the men Vanditt [sic] Potvin who got lame yesterday, was so ill that he had to be carried today. Yesterday morning a small spot on the upper part of his foot became painful, & suddenly swelled very large & is now so painful that he cannot put it to the ground. This [is] an unfortunate circumstance in our present situation.

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Wedy 24

Overcast, fair weather except one shower in the afternoon Wind S.E.

As soon as it was daylight all hands were at work and carried the property along shore 3720 yards N.N.W. and then struck across the Woods to a branch of the Chihalis bay a distance of 2364 yd N.E. where the goods were all brought by 1 O'clock. The road along the sea shore was the same as yesterday, but that across the woods is very bad, it lies through thick woods & is almost one continuation of swamps where the men with their loads were often over the knees in water & mud. By taking this road a great deal of labour is saved as it is 3 miles shorter than the road along the shore and across the other end of the point. As soon as the goods were got across the half of the people were sent to take round the boat which was left yesterday and to bring it and the other two up to this place they are not yet arrived.

A goose & 2 ducks were killed. Great numbers of ducks are in this small branch of the bay but they are very shy and difficult to get at.

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Vandit Potvin is getting worse, the swelling is extending up his leg & several black spots are appearing on his foot, he had to be carried all the way we came today.

The whole length of this Portage which we have just now got across is a little more than 10 Miles.

Thursd^y 25

Overcast with drizzling rain & weighty showers. Wind S.E. blowing pretty fresh. rained hard in the night.

At an early hour the men who remained at the camp were sent off to assist the others with the boats, with which they arrived at noon and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 Oclock we embarked & proceeded up the Chihallis bay. Our courses were N. 5 Miles, N.N.E. 4 miles & N.E. 5 Miles along the E. side of the Bay. On account of the haziness of the weather the form of the bay or the appearance of the Country about it could not be clearly discerned. But the Bay appears to be about 6 miles wide at its entrance immediately after which it widens to from 10 to 12 miles and then narrows gradually as we advance to from 3 to 4 miles. The shores are thickly clothed with wood, chiefly pine to the waters edge, and near the water are rather flat. It is sometimes difficult to find a dry place to encamp on account of the rising of the

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tides. Fresh water is also sometimes a scarce article, and that which we get being obtained from the swamps is of a bad quality & sometimes brackish.

The Iroquoy George had been stationary near this bay sometime past hunting Sea Otters, he has now sent all his slave[s] to the Fort but one with whom he accompanies us.

A Canoe with 10 Chihailis Indians passed us on the way to the Cheenooks.

Friday 26

Weighty rain in the night & with the exception of a few short intervals in the afternoon pouring down rain all day. Blowing fresh from the E. forenoon. The men were completely drenched, and it was with difficulty a fire was got made when we put a shore for breakfast.

Embarked at daylight and proceeded to the bottom of the Bay a distance of about 6 Miles N.E. Here we entered the Chihailis river up which we proceeded about 18 miles in a winding course which varies from N.E. to S.E., the course in general may be considered E. The part of the Bay through which

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we passed in the morning narrows from 2 miles to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles in breadth, the shores on the North side are pretty high, & those on the S. side are low & swampy near the water. The Bay from S.W. to N.E. may be about 20 or 24 miles in length. The Chihailis River is about 300 yards wide at its entrance and narrows as we advance till about 100 yds where we are now encamped, the banks in some places are high and steep but oftener low & flat, and thickly wooded to the waters edge, principally pine on the high banks & ash & alder on the low points, and all along so thickety with underwood, briars & long grass, that it would be difficult to penetrate any distance into the woods, the shores are wet & muddy. The Navigation for so far is very good, the river is deep and the current slack. The tide ascends this far. In the course of the day we passed several islands. Passed 4 villages of the Chihailis Nation, 2 houses in the first, 5 in the second, 2 in the third, and 3, in the fourth, opposite which we are encamped. Though these people are well accustomed with the Whites & have

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been still on friendly terms with them we were surprised to find them all under arms on our approach and at some of the villages assuming threatening attitudes shouting from behind the trees and presenting their arms particularly their bows & arrows as if in the act of discharging them. On enquiring into the cause of this unexpected conduct we learned that Cumcumlei's Son Cassica had spread a report among these people that the whites were coming to attack them & they were so credulous as to believe it, but they were soon undeceived and a present of a little tobacco to some of the chief men dismissed all appearance of hostility.

These peoples houses, arms appearance &c are in every respect similar to the Cheenocks, they have a good many fire arms among them.

Potvin the lame man is getting no better the swelling is rather increasing than decreasing.

We can only form a conjecture as to their numbers, from the first 2 houses we passed a canoe followed us with 14 men, whom we supposed were all that belonged to those two houses, which

Novr 1824 was 7 per house, supposing each house to contain 7 Men fit to bear arms, as we passed 12 houses the number of men would be 84 which is probably correct, perhaps rather under the thing.

These peoples houses are constructed of planks set on end & neatly fastened at the top, those in the ends lengthening towards the middle to form the proper pitch the roofs are covered with planks, the seams between which are filled with moss, a span is left open all the way along the ridge which answers the double purpose of letting out the smoak [sic] & admitting the light. About their habitations is a complete sink of filth & nastiness. At this wet season it is a complete mir[e] mixed with the offall [sic] of fish & dirt of every kind renders it surprising that human beings can reside among it.

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Saty. 27

Passed the N. branch of the river, this is also a road to the sound, but it was supposed the navigation would be difficult. The road is rather shorter than the one we take

Poured down rain all night, blowing fresh from the S.E. It rained incessantly, with very little wind, till 2 O'clock in the afternoon, when it ceased & a fair evening succeeded. Every person & every thing was completely drenched, our means of keeping them dry being ineffectual.

In order to have time & avoid the *river* difficulty of getting a fire, we breakfasted before we left our encampment - And embarked at 8 O'clock and continued our course up the River to 4 O'clock in the afternoon when we encamped both wet and uncomfortable, but the evening being fair, a good fire was soon made & all hands were soon employed warming themselves and drying their clothes. The distance made today we reckon from 20 to 24 miles, through a very winding course. The river is so crooked that we were steering [?] to every part at times, but our general course was East. The current is very strong & the people had often to use their poles. The general appearance of the river is much the same as yesterday, except that the banks are high, and not so wet & muddy as when

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the tide ebbs & flows. the breadth of the river this day might be from 60 to 80 yards. The continual rain is causing the river to rise very fast & of course increase the strength of the current.

We passed 10 houses, first 1, next 6, & last 3 all of the Chihailis nation. The inhabitants did not appear in arms nor did they appear alarmed as those we passed yesterday. They were likely apprised by some of their friends who preceded us, that they had no reason to be alarmed. At the large village I counted 47 men on the bank and saw some in the houses besides, the whole of which were upwards of 50, but some of those we saw yesterday were among them. The filth about these houses exceeded that we saw yesterday. About & even in the houses were literally alive with maggots, which had generated in the offal of fish, & the stench was most offensive. Canoes of these people accompanied us from one village to another. Many of them were quite naked regardless of the rain.

Several tracks of Elk were seen today, But not a single appearance of beaver have we seen yet in the river.

Potvin is getting worse, his foot & leg have broke in different places.

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Sunday 28

Raining the most part of the night,
Short intervals of fair weather in the
morning, & constant rain afterwards.
Wind S.E.

Embarked a little after 8 O'clock &
pursued our course up the river a
distance of about 10 Miles S.E. to where
it receives a little riv[er], called the
Black river, from the Northward [~~sic~~] up
which we proceeded about 10 Miles in about
a N. E. direction. The part of the
Chihallis river which we passed today is
much the same in appearance as that
described yesterday. The current continued
very strong, the water had risen
considerably during the night - The Black
River, so named from the colour of its
water, is from 20 to 30 yards wide,
towards its lower end the navigation is
very good, the water is deep and the
current not strong, but about 5 or 6
miles up it, the Navigation gets very
troublesome, as the current became strong
and in many places so shallow that the
boats could scarcely be dragged through
it. The river was also in two places
blocked up with drift wood, at one of
which a

Novr. 1824 a portage was made, A passage was cut through the other, a great deal of drift wood is piled on the shore at many places along the river, The banks of this River are in some places elevated & in some places low, the high banks are generally clothed with lofty pine, and the low ones with poplar, Ash, Alder, &c. & the low points with thick willows. Where we are encamped is on the edge of a little plain. This river would not be passable for such craft as ours in the dry season. A great many dead salmon are in this river & many that are just alive and barely able to move through the water.

Passed an Indian house belonging to the Halloweema Nation. I counted 12 persons at it, probably some more were in the house.

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Monday 29

Wind S.E. Rain in the night and a continual succession of weighty showers all day.

Embarked at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 Oclock & proceeded about 9 miles up the river in a N.E. Course. In places the river was very shallow & our progress was sometimes obstructed by drift wood. In other parts the navigation was good as the water was deep and the current slack. The appearance of the country is changing considerably as we advance. The low points are covered with willows small poplars &c. the more elevated banks have ash, poplar, plane & some oak trees while the higher banks have pine, at some distance appear hills, thickly clothed with pine, between these hills and the river there are in some places fine plains. Saw several marks of Beaver.

Encamped at noon, the cause of stopping so soon was to wait for Mr. Annance who had been sent to the principal Holloweema village a few miles off, for a free hunter Pierre Charles who has been with the Indians for some time. It is thought he would be an acquisition to our party, but he could not be found.

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Some of the people were sent off to hunt but returned unsuccessful though they saw both Elk & deer. This is reckoned a good part of the country for these Animals.

Passed two houses of the Holloweema Nation at which I counted 10 men & as many women besides children, probably some more were in the houses. Saw some more Indians some of whom had horses.

Tuesdy 30

Rain in the night, & weighty rain the greater part of the day with strong gusts of wind from the S.E. We did not decamp today. Potvin's foot & leg have got so ill that there is no prospect of his recovering on the voyage & this being the last place from which there is any chance of getting him sent back to the Fort, An agreement was made with an Indian, a principal man of the Chihailis Nation whom we met, to take him home to the Fort, for which he was to be paid handsomely on his arrival. Several of the men were therefore sent off with the sick man to meet the Indian at the Holloweema village whence he was to proceed by the sea coast in a canoe. Cawania an Islander was sent with the man to take care of him, but

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the men returned in the evening & reported that the Indian had made some difficulties & wanted payment before he went off. It not being considered prudent to send the sick man with this Indian a bargain was made with another a Holoweema [sic] to take him by the Cowlitch by which rout [sic] he is expected to reach the Fort sooner. Pierre Charle[s] the man who was wanted yesterday joined our party.

Several of the people went to hunt, & Mr. Annance & Little Pierre killed each a deer. Some of the others saw both Elk and deer, but killed none. The heavy rain was unfavourable for hunting.

Decr.
Weddy 1

Showry weather Wind S.E. There has been more fair weather last night & today than for several days past.

In consequence of having to send the interpreter Laframbois to finish the arrangements with the Indian and get him sent off with the sick man, we did not move camp today either. The Interpreter returned in the evening having effected his mission satisfactorily. The Indian who was engaged for the purpose had set out with the sick man by the Cowlitch. Part of the journey had to be performed on horse back. The poor man is furnished

Decr. 1824 with such a supply of provisions, medicins [sic] and the means of procuring provisions as the means possessed of would admit.

Several of the people were sent off to hunt, they are to proceed to a portage a short way a head and then meet us.

Since we have been here several of the Holloweema Indians from the neighbouring village have visited us. Their mode of life manners language &c. differ little from the Chihailis, indeed they may be considered as a detached part of that tribe.

Thursdy 2

Mild fair weather Wind Easterly

Embarked at half past 7 O'clock and proceeded about 5 miles up the River nearly N, here the river became so narrow & nearly choaked [sic] up with willows and trees that it was found necessary to make a portage & the goods were carried a distance of 2980 yards. The boats were brought up by water which was such a tedious business, a road having to be cut for them in many places through the bushes, that it was night when they reached the upper end of the Portage. The part of the river through which we passed today is pretty deep & the current not strong except at some points till we reach

Decr. 1824 the Portage. The shores are complete thickets of willows and different kinds of desiduous [sic] trees mostly ash. The Portage is a fine road through a handsome plain. Saw several marks of beaver, by their cuttings they seem to be fonder of the ash than other trees.

Friday 3 Wind Northerly. Fair mild weather, except a little drizzling rain in the morning.

Embarked at $\frac{1}{4}$ past 7 O'clock & proceeded up the river & nearly to the head of a Lake where it has its source, a distance of about 8 miles N. to a Portage where boats & all have to be carried across land to Puget's Sound. On our arrival at the Portage at 10 O'clock the business of carrying was immediately commenced and the boats and goods conveyed 3140 yards N.W. The men had a hard days work.

The river widened a little above the portage we left in the morning but was in many places nearly choaked up with willows, but on account of the recent heavy rain there was plenty of water. Pine trees lined the shores, which are low, at some distance from the water, the in

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tervening space is covered with thick willows and small trees of different kinds. The Lake is about 3 to 4 miles long & from 1 to 1½ miles wide & appears on every side thickly wooded, with chiefly pine. In the part of the Portage which we passed today the road is very good, first lieing through a small plain with oak trees scattered here & there through it, and afterwards, through thick woods of lofty trees of different kind some of which are very large, and a good deal of underwood, the road is very good for carrying the pieces as it has been a good deal frequented by Indians, but it is too narrow to carry the boats through, and required a good deal of labour to widen it, as some of the trees to be removed are pretty large, six men were employed clearing it all day.

The hunters who left us two days ago, met us here. Mr. Annance killed a deer which was the only success the party had

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Saturday 4

Fair mild weather Wind Northerly. At daylight the people resumed their labour on the Portage, part to clear a road for the boats and part to carry the baggage. The property was carried to the end of the Portage, a distance of 4950 N.W. Yards by 11 Oclock after which all hands were employed carrying the boats a part of the way, this labour is attended with a great deal of difficulty. As we advance the road gets worse, it is in many places wet and miry, the trees are of a very large size many of them fallen & the ground among them so thickly covered with underwood particularly an evergreen shrub, called by the Chenooks Sallall, that cutting a road through them for the boats is a tedious & laborious task. The track is also intersected by three little rivers or creeks.

This Portage is 8090 yards long, & except a little plain at its commencement, thickly wooded, with different kinds of trees, pine, Maple, Cedar, Ash & wild cherry. Some of the pine trees are very large. I measured some of them, one of the largest was upwards of 5 fathoms in circumference, another 28 feet round, the soil seems to be very rich.

Decr. 1824 Pierre Charles was sent to hunt,
& returned in the evening having killed
two Elk.

Sunday 5 Overcast mild fair weather Wind
North. At an early hour, part of the
men were sent off for the meat that
was killed yesterday, and the rest
continued their labour at the boats
which are yet a considerable distance
from the end of the portage, though
the people wrought at the road and
carrying them all day - A good allowance
of the fresh meat was served out to all
hands, which is a very acceptable change
to them after the pease on which they
had been living chiefly for some time.
Where we are now encamped is on a small
bay of Puget's sound, Notwithstanding
that the tide rises about 6 feet yet the
water is not very salt it can only be
called brackish, As the little river that
falls into it here is inconsiderable,
probably several little rivers discharge
themselves into the bay at no great
distance.

Two Indian houses of the Halloweema
tribe are close by, their inhabitants
are living on salmon which come up this
little bay.

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Monday 6

Overcast, raw cold weather Wind.
Northerly foggy in the morning.

At daylight the people went off to the boats which they brought to the end of the Portage and at 9 O'clock we embarked and proceeded down the bay about 25 miles in the following courses 4 Miles N.N.W.- 4 N.E.- 3 N.- 2 N.N.E. 2 N. 2 E. by S.- 3 N.E. by E.- 3 E.- & 2 N.N.E. Mostly along the S.E. Shore, through narrow channels formed by islands or points. Passed three deep bays or narrows formed by islands on the West side and on the S.E. side. In the evening passed the Nisqually [sic] River which falls in from the E. into a pretty large bay. The shores are steep & bold composed of clay or gravel and covered with wood principally pine to the waters edge. In several places the woods appear pretty clear & not much choaked with underwood. Put ashore a short time at noon to gum the boats, We here found plenty of muscles [sic] which were the only shellfish we found although the shells of several other kinds such as oysters, and different kinds of cockles were along the shore in plenty. Another kind of a fish of a curious shape was also in plenty. This is a shapeless animal, with

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5 long toes joined together in the middle, it seems to be in a torpid state and scarcely to move, it is covered with a crust or hard skin of a reddish colour.

Passed a house of the Holloweema tribe, Also saw two Indians in a canoe

Encamped in the evening near 4 Oclock, on a Sandy Point, very little fresh water.

Tuesdy 7

Wind Easterly, Overcast, cold weather foggy in the Morning.

Embarked at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 Oclock and proceeded 3 Miles N.E. - 6 E. and 26 North, in all 35 Miles, encamped at 4 Oclock in the evening. Our course lay through narrow channels, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide and some wide openings formed by traversing bays and channels formed by islands & Points. Passed a channel and two bays on the W. side, and two bays and a channel on the E. side. The last of the bays receives the Quealax River. Stopped at another little River where there was a village of the Nisqualy Nation consisting of six houses, these are miserable habitations constructed of poles covered with mats. We were detained $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours at this village, getting two men and a woman, wife to one of them, to act as Interpreters

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and guides for us. The men are both of the Sinahomes tribe, and are not intelligible to any of our party neither to they well understand us but they at least one of them understand the language of the Coweechins which is the name of the tribe at the entrance of what is supposed to be Frasers River. The woman speaks & understands the Cheenook language pretty well and is to interpret to the men. Two canoes with 8 Indians passed our encampment in the evening & when it was dark the Indians visited our camp. These people are from the Interior and belong to the [blank in MS.]

The Nisqually Indians speak a language different from any we have seen yet.

Where we are encamped is on an island, where we see the marks of some horses which the Indians have on it.

The appearance of the shores is much the same as yesterday, still bold, high, composed of clay and generally wooded to the waters edge. Where we encamped last night, we found abundance of mussels at low water.

Decr. 1824
Wed 8

Overcast in the morning & cloudy afterwards. Some rain in the afternoon. Wind Easterly.

We were on the water at 7 O'clock and made according to estimation a distance of about 36 miles N 5 Miles, W 3, N E 5 & N 23. We were 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours on the water $\frac{3}{4}$ of which we both sailed and paddled with nice breeze, we conclude that we made at least 5 miles per hour. We this day proceeded through a fine Channel formed, as the others, by the main land and islands. Passed an opening on the E. side in the morning, and on the same side a bay into which the Linawanis River [ran]. On the West side we came through the Soquams Bay from which there is a small opening to the Westard, where we are now encamped is opposite to a wide channel or opening which was to the Westard, it is very deep with a number of islands on its North side & through its entrance. The Channel through which we passed may be 3 or 4 miles wide. The shores appear the same as yesterday. We stopped at the Soquams Village situated in the bay of the same name it consists of 4 houses we saw only 8 or ten men, but understand

Decr. 1824

Several of the inhabitants were off fishing. Our object in stopping here was to get the chief to accompany us, as an interpreter, but he was not at home. These houses are built of boards covered with mats.

The Country in general appears much the same as that through which we have already passed. The banks generally very high composed of clay or gravel, & wooded generally to the waters edge the timber seems not to be of a large growth. A ridge of high mountains covered with snow appeared some distance inland on the Eastern shore, two high mountains were also seen covered with snow to the S. & S. E. Another high one was also seen to the S.W.

Decr. 1824
 Thursdy 9

Foggy in the morning. Wind
 Northerly, raw cold weather.

Resumed our voyage at $\frac{1}{2}$ past
 7 Oclock and proceeded about 28
 miles through a fine channel from 3
 to 5 miles wide formed by an island
 on the W. side and the main land and
 islands on the E. side. Our courses
 were as follows N.N.W. 15 miles,
 W.N.W. 10 & N.N.W. 3 Passed the
 Sinnahomes Bay, which receives a river
 of the same name, on the E. side, and
 on the same side the entrance of a
 bay or channel, here was also a small
 island on the same side in the entrance
 of the Sinahomes [sic] Bay On the W.
 side of the Channel we passed the
 entrance of a bay or channel & a small
 island in the entrance of Sinahomes
 bay, Where we are now encamped is near
 a Village of the Skatchet tribe. The
 smoke of two other villages of the same
 tribe appear at other situations round
 the bay. During the forepart of the day
 the appearance of the country is much
 the same as yesterday but towards
 evening it began to change considerably.
 The banks are still high but not so
 abrupt as before the woods are getting
 in several places much thinner and some
 handsome plains are seen stretching
 over to the waters edge. A high ridge
 of snow topped

Decr. 1824 mountains were still seen extending from nearly South to N. along the Eastern shore at some distance Inland. All the country hereabouts is represented by the Indians to abound with Elk and deer.

In the after noon passed a large house belonging to some of the Sinahomes tribe, on the E. side of the Channel, the inhabitants on our approach fled to the woods, but our interpreters called to some who were in a canoe, & they brought back their friends. We went to their house and were treated by them with shell fish. All these tribes appear much alarmed on our approach and appear aimed to dispute our landing, if they do not fly to the woods, till they are informed of our friendly intentions, All strangers are considered by them as parties of neighbouring tribes coming on war excursions.

These people got some trifling presents.

One of our interpreters being afraid to proceed any farther remained at this house, where some of his friends resided. This man since he has been with us frequently boasted of his bravery & showed us how he would kill the Coweechins, the tribe who

Dec^r 1824 inhabit the entrance of the river of which we are in quest, and who are represented as a barbarous and wicked people. They are so much dreaded that the most of the Indians are unwilling to trust themselves among them even under our protection. However the other interpreter and his wife are still bold enough to proceed.

A canoe with 10 men & a woman of the Scatchet tribe met us in the evening and being assured of their safety by our guide, returned to where we encamp, & are remaining with us all night.

Decr. 1824
Friday 10

Foggy in the morning, and foggy with rain all the after part of the day. Wind Northerly.

Embarked at $\frac{1}{4}$ Past 7 Oclock, and proceeded 3 Miles N.N.W. - 5 N. by W. - 5 N.N.W. - 2 N.W. 10 - N.N.W. and 11 N.W. in all 36 miles. Our course lay first round a point to one of the Scatchet villages, then across a deep bay, & through a narrow winding channel to another large bay down which we proceeded to an island at its entrance where we encamped at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4 Oclock. This was the only place within our reach where water could be found according to our guides. The appearance of the Country is very much changed the shores are much bolder & of rocks, the islands are also rocky with apparently little earth and clothed with trees of a stunted growth.

Last night a young man son to the principal Scatchet chief, was engaged to accompany the party as a guide & interpreter, & principally for the purpose of introducing us to strangers whom we may pass, he accordingly embarked with us and shortly after we were met by

Decr. 1824 some people in canoes, who informed him that a war party from a neighbouring tribe had surprised one of the villages & slain one of his friends in the night a kind of howling noise was set up and we proceeded to the village which was in our way, where a short stay was made till our guide got some things from his wife, when we continued across the bay in the mean time the Indians had collected from the different villages and followed us in five canoes to the number of 55 men armed with bows & arrows, spears, bludgeons and a few guns. Not knowing what their intentions might be our party placed their arms beside them in readiness, however the Indians said they were going to get news of the murder which turned out to be a false report. A present of a knife & a looking glass was made to each of their three principal chiefs, with which they seemed well satisfied. Two of the chiefs, the father of the young man already mentioned & another volunteered to accompany us and their offer was accepted & they embarked, all the others returned.

The Scatchets are fine looking Indians. They are

Decr. 1824

not so flat headed as the Cheenooks. They go quite naked, except a blanket about their shoulders. Many use in lieu of blankets little cloaks made of feathers or hair. The bay in which they now reside is a handsome place. Passed 12 houses belonging to these people on the E. side of our road, not far separate, and on the opposite side of the bay I counted 12 houses at least in a village, besides which at a great distance, the smoke of 2 other villages appeared.

A ridge of mountains covered with snow extended from S.E. to N.W. at some distance from the Eastern shore, the intervening space seemed a fine flat country, well wooded. In the after part of the day approached considerably nearer the shore, and the country became much more hilly, even every island of any size rose to a little hill in its centre. The Indians represent this country as abounding with Elk, even the islands are said to be well stocked with these animals. The main land appears well for beaver & the Indians say they are numerous.

Decr. 1824
Satdy. 11

Overcast showry weather Wind
Easterly.

Proceeded on our voyage at $\frac{1}{4}$ Past 7 Oclock & continued to $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 when we encamped in consequence of having a very wide traverse to make which it was deemed unsafe to attempt as the weather appeared unsettled & the sea appeared to be running high in the middle of the traverse. The distance made was 15 miles N.W. by W. and 7 miles N.W. along the main shore. The Wind being favourable we sailed the most of the time with a fine breeze. Passed several islands to the Westard but at a great distance. There was also what appeared to be a chain of hills to the Westard farther off than the islands, but on account of the haziness of the weather we could not well distinguish whether they were hills or other islands. Saw two large channels, one runing [*sic*] to the S.W. & the other to the West. On the E. side passed a small island in the morning then two points and a small bay close to where we are encamped which is in the entrance of another bay. The appearance of the country has again changed. The shore still continues high & steep but instead of rocks are composed of clay & wooded to the waters edge, and the woods seem not to be

Decr. 1824 much choaked with underwood.

Immediately when we put ashore Pierre Charles went to hunt, and shortly returned having killed 3 Elk & a deer.

Decr. 1824
Sunday 12

Overcast Stormy weather
in the morning & moderate in the
afterpart of the day, Sleet &
weighty rain in the night.

The weather being too rough
to attempt to cross the traverse
in the morning and part of the
people having to be sent for the
meat which was killed yesterday we
did not decamp today.

The people who were sent for
the meat arrived with it in the
afternoon. The great number of
tracks seen by the hunters indicate
that Elk are very numerous about
this place.

Decr. 1824
Monday 13

Overcast Wind N. Easterly, a little wind in the forepart of the day but mostly calm afterward.

Embarked at half Past 7 Oclock and set out with the intention of crossing the traverse, but had gone but a short way when it was thought too rough to proceed, though there was not much wind, the course was therefore changed & the boats crossed the entrance of the little bay in which we had been encamped, and continued along the main shore to another bay down which they proceeded to the entrance of a small river, up which they continued about 7 or 8 miles, in a very winding course which was in general N. Easterly. Encamped at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 Oclock.

The Point above mentioned to which it was intended to cross in the morning is represented by the Indians to form the entrance of the Coweechin River (which is supposed to be the same with Frasers) on the S.E. side, it projects far out to sea and appears like an island, but seems to be joined to the main land which is very low, by a sandy ridge which probably may be covered at high water, immense flocks of plover were observed flying about this sand. The distance to this point might be about 10 miles. Sand appears at a distance beyond the point.

P. Roberts
7

Decr. 1824 The reason of proceeding up the little River was the Indians representing that by making a portage there was a road this way into the Coweechin River, but they said it was very bad and seemed most desirous to go by the point. The Navigation of the little River is very bad after getting a short way up it was often barred up with drift wood which impeded our progress, tho' the Indians had cut roads through it for their canoes yet they were too narrow for our boats, farther up it is nearly closed up with willows so uncommonly thick that it was both laborious and tedious to get the boats dragged through them. It is yet some distance to the portage. The appearance of the country round the bay from where we started from this morning round to the point appears low, & flat the bay appears to be shallow.

In the river nothing but thick willows are seen for some distance from the water where the banks though low are well wooded with pine, cedar, alder & some other trees. There are the appearance of beaver being pretty numerous in this river. Where we are now encamped is a pretty little plain.

Two Indian boys were found in a lodge a little

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above our encampment, they were treated kindly and allowed to depart. No information of any importance got from them. Our Indians and they understand each other, but our Interpreters so imperfectly understand the Indians who accompany us that the information required on the most important points is very unsatisfactorily obtained.

Decr. 1824
Tuesday 14

Overcast very weighty rain in the afterpart of the day.

It being found that the boats could proceed no farther up the river, carrying was commenced in the morning and the boats & baggage conveyed 3970 yards which is a little more than half of the Portage. This Portage which is to another little river that falls into Coweechin River lies through a plain which with the weighty rain is become so soft and miry that in several places it resembles a swamp. The road is very miry and every hollow is a pool of water. The soil here appears to be very rich it [is] a black mould. The remains of a luxurious crop of fern and grass lies on the ground. The Country about here seems low, the trees of different kinds, pine, birch, poplar, Alder, &c. Some of the pine are of a large size. Some of the men who were hunting visited the upper parts of the little Rivers and report that they saw the appearance of plenty of beaver. Elk have been very numerous here some time ago, but the hunters suppose that since the rainy season they have gone to the high grounds.

Decr. 1824
Wed. 15

Rainy all day with the exception of some short intervals of fair weather.

The people resumed their labour at an early hour & by the evening had the boats and baggage at the end of the Portage, a distance of 3930 yards which makes the whole length of the Portage 7910 yards N.N.E. The appearance of the country the same as described yesterday.

In the evening as we got to the end of the Portage a herd of Elk was seen on the edge of the plain, several of the people set after them, but only one was killed, which was by Mr. McKay. There were too many hunters & though the Elk were not wild they were not approached with sufficient caution they were followed into the woods by some of the people who were not yet returned.

Three Indians came to us in the afternoon They are of the Cohoutilts Nation. They differ little in appearance from the Indians who accompany us, their blankets are of their own manufacture & made of hair or coarse wool, over which they wear a kind of short cloak made of the bark of the cedar tree, it has a hole in the middle through which the head passes, it extends

Decr. 1824 to below the shoulders and breast and has an opening left on each side to leave the arms unconfined. The only arms observed with them was bows & arrows. Their language differs from that of our Indians but they understand each other. The only information obtained from them was that their tribe was in detached parties in their winter quarters in the little rivers, That the large River was not far off.

Decr. 1824
Thursdy 16

Rain in the night, And except some short intervals raining all day. Calm.

We were detained waiting for A. Aubichon, Thos. Tawacton & Louis who went after the Elk yesterday evening and did not return till a late hour this morning, till 11 O'clock when we embarked and proceeded down the little river from the portage through a very winding course generally North for a distance of about 8 miles to its discharge into the Coweechin River up which we proceeded about 2 Miles E. and encamped at 2 O'clock.

The navigation in the little River is pretty good in some places it is rather shallow, the tide runs a little way up it. The country through which it runs is flat and clayey. In some parts near the portage the woods approach to the waters edge, but farther down the woods are at some distance and the river runs through a fine meadow which is covered with the withered remains of a fine crop of hay. The marks of a good many beaver, and numerous tracks of Elk some quite fresh are to be seen all the way along the River.

We entered the Coweechin River at 1 O'clock.

Decr. 1824. At this place it is a fine looking River at least 1000 yards wide as wide as the Columbia at Oak Point where we came into it is opposite to an island. We are uncertain what distance it may be to its entrance. The banks here on the N. shore are pretty low & those on the South shore pretty high, both well wooded to the waters edge. The trees are pine, cedar, alder, birch & some others. Some high hills appear to the Eastard at no great distance topped with snow.

From the size and appearance of the River there is no doubt in our minds but that it is Frazer's.

The men who went after the Elk yesterday evening killed 2 but brought very little of the meat home, & it was thought that too much time would be lost by sending for it.

Decr. 1824
Friday 17

Overcast Wind Northerly sharp
cold weather.

Embarked at 8 Oclock and proceeded up the River 4 Miles E.N.E. to an island which divides it into two Channels, then up the N. Channel 1. Mile E.N.E. & 1 Mile E. to the head of the island, 4 Miles E.S.E. here the river is again divided into 2 Channels by an island 1 Mile E. through a narrow channel between 2 small islands situated in the N. Channel, $1\frac{1}{2}$ Mile E.N.E. & $1\frac{1}{2}$ E. to the head of the island, then 3 miles N.N.E. & 1 Mile E. to the entrance of a small river from the North where we encamped. The river still keeps its breadth, the shores in the forepart of the day had a moderate as[c]ent, & thickly wooded to the waters edge, farther on the banks were lower and wooded in some places principally with poplar, behind these the land rises in hills which appear to be chiefly clothed with pine Cedar &c. The banks were in many places composed with clay that has been deposited by the water. A high mountain covered with snow appeared to the S.W. in the morning, and shortly after a ridge also topped [sic] with snow was seen extending

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from N.W. to N.E. Two peaks on this ridge are very high, as we are approaching these mountains the country is getting hilly, some of the hills are high and close to the shore.

In the forepart of the day we saw an Indian lodge in a little bay on the N. side of the river. Our Indians we[re] sent ahead to apprise the inhabitants of our approach and good intentions which prevented them from being alarmed. This was a miserable habitation formed of planks, both sides & roof, the usual appendages of Indian houses, filth & nastiness were here in abundance, and the smell of the remains of decayed salmon was very offensive. Nevertheless the inmates in number 22, 7 men 7 women and 8 children appeared healthy and seemed to have plenty of dry salmon provided. Our Indians were understood by these people yet we got very little information from them. We learned that they got some some [sic] few European articles in traffic [sic] from the tribes above, who obtained the[m] from white people. The Indians got a few presents when we left them & 2 of them accompanied us in a canoe.

A village is a short way up the little river where we are encamped. Our Indians sent to it three

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of the[m] remained all night, the others returned when it was dark with 3 of the Indians, who stayed a short time and went off, with the intention as we understood of paying us a formal visit tomorrow.

At the house below, there was an instrument resembling in shape a salmon spear, but for what purpose it is used, its size leaves me at a loss to determine, it was 2 poles about 5 inches in circumference, fitted in such a manner that they were intended to be spliced together, one of them was 42 feet long and the other 29, in all about 71 feet, it was of cedar neatly dressed, a fork made of 2 pieces of wood different from the pole, and not barked nor made very sharp was fixed to the end of the pole. No cordage or any other tackling was about it.

Decr. 1824
Saturday 18

Rained without intermission all night and all day. Very little wind from the N.E.

About 9 Oclock 47 Men, 3 Women & 1 boy of the Cohoutilt Indians, (which is the name of the tribe that inhabit the village above where we were encamped) visited us, in a friendly manner. Some presents were given them consisting of a fish hook to each of the common men & a looking glass and a little vermilion to each of 3 or 4 chiefs. A few beaver skins were also purchased from one of the chiefs for a couple of Axes & a few beads. they laid no value on tobacco & would not use it. These Indians though of the same tribe were much more intelligent [sic] than those we saw yesterday.

A new blanket, two guns, a pair of trousers, and a few other European articles, some of them very old and worn out, were in the possession of these people these articles we understood were received in barter from tribes farther up the river, and that they had passed from white people, through several tribes before that. A good deal of information was received from these people respecting the river. A letter being presented to the Chief to forward to

Decr. 1824 Thompson's River, he mentioned no fewer than 15 tribes 8 on the South & 7 on the North side of the River, through whose hands it must pass before it reached the Forks. The[y] named the Suswhaps & some other tribes whose names were known.

The Chief of this tribe [blank in MS.] is a fine tall good looking man, but his people are of low sta[ture]. Their elderly men have generally beards all their heads are a little flatted [sic]. Their clothes consisted of blankets of their own manufacture, some white and some grey or of a black brown, with varregated [sic] bands of different colours mostly red and white. They wore mats to keep off the rain & conical hats.

On account of our short stay we could observe nothing respecting the manners, or mode of living of these people. They offered some roasted sturgeon for sale, which shows that these fish are in the river, but of their mode of taking them we know nothing. Our Indian guide understood them & was understood also. The language they speak has some little resemblance to the Okanagan.

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On the arrival of the Indians at our camp this morning we learned that the Scatchet chief who went to visit them yesterday evening had deserted in the night.

Mr. McMillan having determined to return deeming it unnecessary to proceed farther up the River, we embarked past noon & returned to near the camp which we left yesterday.

Decr. 1824
Sunday 19

Cloudy fair weather Wind S.E.
blowing fresh in the evening. Poured
down rain all night.

Embarked at 7 O'clock and proceeded
down the River about 27 Miles viz W. 4
miles down the N. channel formed by the
island opposite which we entered the
River on the 16th. Another small island
is at the lower end of this one then
W.N.W. 2 miles, S.W. by W. 2 Miles, W. by N.
2 Miles, along the N side of an island,
4 Miles, W. by S. At the lower end of this
course there is a bay with an island in
its entrance On the N. side of the
River W.S.W. 3 miles, a small island is on
the N. side of the River just below the
Bay. S by W. 5 Miles. About the middle
of this course there is a bay and an
island on the W. side of the River and
immediately below the river is divided into
2 Channels by an island. We proceeded
down the E one - 1 Mile S.W. by S. and
4 miles W.S.W. during this day the river
maintained its wideness till towards
evening when its breadth considerably
increased. Some places the banks are
elevated at the waters edge, but in
general they are low and the land rising
into hills a short distance from the
shore, towards evening the

Decr. 1824

shores on both sides of the river became low and swampy. The trees observed on the shore were pine, cedar, plane, alder & some others. The alder principally occupies the low grounds. Where we are now encamped is not far from the entrance of the river, the country is so very swampy and liable to be overflowed with the tide that we had to turn back some distance to our present situation, which though the site of an Old village is a quagmire.

Four canoes containing 17 Indians of the Cohoutilt tribe met us. Among these was [blank in MS.] the principle chief of the tribe, & a second chief named [blank in MS.] We put ashore, and had some conversation with them by the help of our interpreter, they were informed of the motive of our visit, & seemed highly pleased. A chief's cloathing [sic] was presented to the old man & a com. coat to the young one besides a few other trifling articles. Some beaver skins were also traded from them. These people are of low stature, their heads are a little flattened, & the old men generally have beards. The old chief seems to be

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marked with the small Pox, and is a smart looking little man though pretty old. The young one is much stouter & a good looking man. Their village was at some distance up a river which falls into the bay.

A piece of an old blanket & an old knife were the only European articles observed among these people, they seemed to have no arms, their clothing were blankets of their own manufacture.

We saw another canoe with three Indians in it but they would not approach us.

Though we saw but very few Indians yet they must be very numerous about this river at particular seasons of the year. We passed the sites of several old villages, the one where we are now encamped extends at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile along the shore, while passing it I counted 54 houses but on coming ashore they were found to be so situated that not more than the $\frac{1}{2}$ of them were counted.

Decr. 1824
Monday 20

Overcast, mild weather with fog slight shower of rain forenoon. Cleared up afterwards and became a fine sunshining day. Light wind from the E. and N.E.

Embarked at $\frac{1}{4}$ before 7 O'clock and continued our course down the River S. by W. 6 miles & W by S. 5 miles through one of the principle channels which is at least [blank in MS.] yards wide to its discharge into the sea. There were two other Channels on the South side, and a large one supposed to be on the N. side. The Channel through which we came was sounded in several places towards its discharge & found to be from 7 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms about high water. The land about the entrance of the river is very low & swampy with some few scattered pines of a small size & bushes. A ridge of pretty high land appears at some distance on the N.W. side of the river, that on the S.E. side is a low narrow strip which divides the river from the sea. The sea on each side of the entrance of the River appears to be shallow.

Decr. 1824 From the entrance of the river the boats proceeded along the outside of the low strip of land S.E. by S. 2 miles, S.E. by E. 5 to near a point of high land along which we continued 4 miles S.S.E. - 1 S.S.E. - 3 E.N.E. & 1 N.E. to its outward extremity, Then across the open sea to the E. side of a bay on the Northern shore E. by N. 6 miles, E.S.E 4 & E. 4. The Point above mentioned is Vancouvers Pt Roberts part of the shore along which we passed is low clothed with grass & shrubs & has a pleasing appearance, towards its outer end the shore is bold and steep composed of clay with some rocks along the water edge. At the very outer end is a low point of considerable extent entirely covered with an old Indian village. Where we are now encamped is the Birch Bay of Vancouver.

Vancouver island and the islands in the E. Channel between it & the main shore appeared quite plain & in many places rises into high hills, Also along the main shore to [sic] the

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Northward, the land could be seen distinctly. A strip of low flat ground extends some distance from the shore and is succeeded by a ridge of high mountains covered with snow, extending as far as the eye can reach along the coast both to the S. E. and N.W. Some of the peaks are very high. Some pretty high hills are also to be seen which are green & have no snow on them.

Saw a canoe with 6 Indians near the entrance of the River. On being called to by our Indian they approached to within a short distance of the boats, but could not be prevailed upon to come nearer. On some farther conversation with our Indian they pulled ashore to bring their chief who had landed, but the boats pushed on and did not wait for them. These people are of the Coweechin tribe & had just crossed from Vancouvers island, where they now live, they did not approach near enough for us to distinguish any thing of their

Decr. 1824 dress or appearance, they were armed with long spears.

On the low land at the entrance of the River geese, particularly white ones, were very numerous & were by no means shy they allowed themselves to be approached easily, Mr. McKay killed 3 of them.

Decr. 1824
Tuesday 21

Clear starry weather in the night with a slight frost, Cloudy sunshining weather during the day. Light wind from the N.W.

Embarked at 6 Oclock and encamped at 2. Our course was back along the same track through which we passed on the 10th & 11 Inst - viz 12 Miles S.E. by E. 5 Miles S.E. by E. & 3 Miles S.E. to the entrance of the Narrow Channel. The wind was favourable and the sails were up part of the day, but it was so light that they were of little service.

Decr. 1824
Wedy 22

Showry weather Wind S. Easterly.
Embarked at 4 Oclock and after getting out of the little Channel which was S. E. 6 or 7 Miles, proceeded E.S.E. across a bay about 10 Miles to the entrance of a narrow shallow channel through which we proceeded 2 Miles S.S.E. into a fine bay up which we continued S.S.E. 12 miles to the head of an island on the right hand, it was down the E. side of this island we passed on the 9th Inst. From this island our course was 7 Miles S. by E. The Entrance of Sinahonas [sic] Bay to the Eastard & the channel to Scatchats Bay to the Westard, Then S. by E. 10 miles to a point on the main shore on Eastern side of the Channel opposite a wide Channel that falls in from the Westard.

In the morning passed a lodge of Scatchet Indians, here I counted about the house and in the door 17 persons. From these people we learned that the Chiefs who deserted from us on the [blank in MS.] Inst have not yet arrived. Afterwards we passed a village of the Sinnahomes Tribe of 3 houses on island.

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A canoe with 4 men came off to us. They were presented with 3 brass rings each and a knife & piece of Tobacco sent to one of their chief men.

The road we have pursued the afterpart of the day is through the same track we passed on the [blank in MS.] Inst.

Where we are now encamped is at a little brook & though it is scarcely large enough to get a kettle of water drawn from it, yet there are the marks of beaver in it, their cuttings are carried down by the current.

Decr. 1824
Thursday 23

Stormy with weighty showers of rain in the night. Stormy with almost continual heavy rain all day, Wind S.E.

It being too stormy in the morning we did not embark till 11 Oclock when it became a little moderate. Our course was along the Eastern shore S. by E. 12 to 15 miles to 2 Oclock when we put a shore it being too rough to proceed.

Two canoes of the Soquams tribe which were proceeding to the Northward along the opposite shore crossed over to us. One of them accompanied us a short way, but the other could not get across in time. They soon both pursued their journey under sail. These crafts seemed adapted to stand more sea than our boats.

Decr. 1824
Friday 24

Stormy & weighty rain in the night, & cold cloudy fair weather the afterpart of the day.

Embarked a little after 4 Oclock in the morning, and encamped at 2 Oclock in the afternoon at Sinaughton's, our guide's village which is called Chelacom. It was stormy in the morning but pretty moderate afterwards. Our course all day was about S. by E 44 miles. We are now returning on the same track we pursued on our way going.

Decr. 1824
Saturday 25

Showry in the night & weighty rain
the greater part of the day. Wind S.E.

Embarked at 4 Oclock and reached the
Portage at 10 where the people immediately
commenced carrying & had the boats and
baggage more than half across the portage
at night. On account of the heavy rain
the road is much more wet & miry than
when we passed last, yet we get on more
expeditiously as the road is cleared.

One of our boats was left at
Sinaughtons village & the crew & baggage
embarked in the other two.

Last night Sinaughton was paid for
his services, & seemed well satisfied.

Decr. 1824
Sunday 26

Wind south Easterly. Very weighty rain in the night and raining the most part of the day.

At daylight the the [sic] business of carrying was resumed and by 11 Oclock we were embarked on the Scatchat Lake and pursued back the same road which we went on the [blank in MS.] to 4 Oclock when we encamped on a plain on the [blank in MS.] side of the river opposite the Holloweema village.

Passed two Indian houses on the S.E. side of the Skatchat Lake of the Holloweema Nation.

Decr. 1824
Monday 27

Sharp frost in the night. Fair weather, with fog Wind Southerly.

Our party was divided. Mr. McMillan, I, Michel, the Interpreter & 6 men, to proceed across the land to the Cowlitch River & thence to the Fort by water. Messrs. McKay, Annance [sic] and the rest of the people to go with the boats the same way we came. A man went ahead yesterday to procure horses from the Indians. It was noon today when he returned with the information that they were to be had. The boats then proceeded on their rout down the River, and we crossed a fine plain about 6 miles to the Holloweema village but the Indians not being able to get the horses collected we had to encamp close by for the night.

The plain on which the village is situated has a very pleasing appearance, it is of considerable extent bounded on every side by woods, prin

Decr. 1824

cipally pine, with here and there Oak trees thinly scattered over the plain. The soil is composed of gravel mixed with a small quantity of rich black mould. The surface is covered with a scanty crop of short grass & fern.

Decr. 1824
Tuesday 28

Sharp frost in the night, and foggy during the day.

Having procured the horses & got every thing ready, set out on our journey at 8 O'clock and encamped at 4 in the evening. The people found such difficulty in driving up the loaded horses that it was quite dark before some of them reached the camp, the men got so tired with one of the horses that they left him and carried his load themselves.

Our course was nearly S.E. about 25 miles. The road lay through plain and points of woods alternately. In the morning the road through the plains was very good, but in the wood it was very bad & ran over two pretty high hills it is very wet and miry and so slippery in places that the horses can scarcely keep their feet, and though it is a common Indian road, they are so lazy that they will not remove the branches & fallen trees out of the way, which is often nearly obstructed by them, and the miserable horses with difficulty clamber over the trees. The road

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was crossed by two pretty large rivers & several small streams, some of which are now pretty deep being swollen with the heavy rain. All these streams run to the S.W. As we advance the plains are of a smaller size. They are wetter than the large ones, & the soil seems better, having a greater proportion of black earth mixed with the gravel, the crop of grass & fern seems to have been more luxurious. In the woods the trees are pine of different kinds some of a large size, Cedar, plane, Alder, & some others, besides several bushes or willows, and kind of thorn or crab tree. The soil in the woods seems to be richer than that in the plains. Passed an Indian House of the Halloweema Nation.

Decr. 1824
Wedy. 29

Frost in the night, cloudy fair weather during the day.

Proceeded on our journey at 7 O'clock & by 11 arrived at the Cowlitch River, it was 12 before all the people arrived. The course was still about N.E. 10 or 12 miles, and lay through alternate plains & wood the same as yesterday. Some small streams crossed the road. The Nisqually & Cowlitch mountains appeared in the morning the former to the N.E. & the latter to the E.

A canoe was hired from the Indians to carry us to the Fort, but when we had all embarked it was found too small & another had to be hired and at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 12 we pushed off & fell down the river and reached the Columbia near 7 O'clock. The Cowlitch is in general from 40 to 50 yards wide, the current very strong above but slack at its discharge into the Columbia. The banks are in some places bold and high at other places not so elevated. The high banks are in general clothed with pine of different kinds

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and cedar and the lower ones with alder, ash and other desiduous trees. The general course of the River, which is very winding, appears to be about S.W. A large branch falls in from the Southard, besides several small streams from both sides. The upper part of the River is very populous. I counted 30 houses to the Forks, all built of planks.

Decr. 1824
Thursdy 30

Frost in the night, Blowing fresh the forepart of the day with weighty rain in the afternoon.

Put ashore to sup at 8 Oclock last night & after supping embarked & continued under way all night and arrived at the Fort at 10 Oclock in the morning. The wind being pretty fresh in the night caused a swell that was just enough for our canoe to pass through with safety, the swell increasing above Tongue point we took in a good deal of water before we got ashore at the portage but the wind being then off the land we got safely to the Fort. The little canoe had to be put ashore in the night and did not arrive till the afternoon.