

As a memorial of this extraordinary incident, porcelain of Japanese manufacture, which was purchased from the Indians who plundered the junk, was seen in possession of Mr. Burnie, the agent of the Hudson Bay Company, at Astoria.

On the 29th and part of the 30th, we had light airs and calms, so that we made little or no progress. In the afternoon of the 30th, the breeze freshened and carried us briskly to our destination. While thus proceeding, a large canoe, containing about twenty Indians, endeavoured to board us; but I was too anxious to reach an anchorage to regard their desires.

I was in hopes that the wind would continue fair, and enable us to have reached Neah Harbour ere night; but as we approached Cape Flattery and opened the Straits of Fuca, it became contrary. We were therefore compelled to pass the night, which proved dark and rainy, under way. We had but little knowledge of the dangers that might surround us; but our frequent tacks throughout the night showed us that but few existed at the mouth of the straits.

The coast of Oregon, to the south of Cape Flattery, is rocky, much broken, and affords no harbours, except for very small vessels. It may therefore be considered as extremely dangerous, and particularly on account of its outlying rocks. The soundings on this coast, however, I afterwards discovered, may serve as a sure indication by which danger may be avoided, and safety may be insured by not approaching the coast into soundings of less than seventy fathoms.

On the morning of the 1st of May, we found ourselves well into the straits; and as I proposed to defer the survey of this part of them until my return, we hastened to reach Port Discovery, where we anchored at half-past 6 P. M. on the 2d of May; just forty-nine years after Vancouver, pursuing the track of De Fuca, had visited the same harbour.

The Straits of Juan de Fuca may be safely navigated. The wind will for the greater part of the year be found to blow directly through them, and generally outwards: this wind is at times very violent. The shores of the strait are bold, and anchorage is to be found in but few places. We could not obtain bottom in some places with sixty fathoms of line, even within a boat's length of the shore.

The south shore is composed of perpendicular sandy cliffs, that run back into high and rugged peaks, and is covered with a forest of various species of pines, that rises almost to the highest points of the range of mountains. The highest points themselves are covered with snow; and among them Mount Olympus was conspicuous, rising to an altitude of eight thousand one hundred and thirty-eight feet.