

Island, about a mile and a half to the north of Nisqually anchorage, where the shore has a considerable indentation. There, although the water is deep, vessels would be protected from the winds which blow most violently, from the southwest, southeast, and northwest, and also from any sea, while Nisqually is not: this place is equally well supplied with water, and the hill is by no means so precipitous.

The spring tides were found to be eighteen feet, those of the neaps twelve feet. High water, at the full and change, at 6<sup>h</sup> 10<sup>m</sup>, P. M. During the whole of our stay there was found to be a great discrepancy between the day and night tides, the latter not rising as high as the former by two feet.

The country in this vicinity is thought to be remarkably healthy, and on all these salt-water inlets, the winter is represented to be mild, and but of short duration. The mean temperature, six feet under ground, during our stay at the observatory, from the 20th of May till the 14th of July, was found to be 58.5°. I was not fully satisfied that this record gave correct results for the mean temperature of the climate, although frosts do not penetrate the ground; for by the same manner of trying it, and under almost the same circumstances, at Astoria, we obtained only 54°, although that place is a degree to the south of Nisqually.

The geographical position of Nisqually will be found in the tables. The greatest range of temperature was found to be 55°, the lowest 37°; and the mean, during the same period, 63.87°: the barometer standing at 29.970 in.

The Indians around Nisqually are few in number, and the whole tribe does not amount to two hundred, including men, women, and children. They belong to the tribes who flatten their heads, and are represented as vicious and exceedingly lazy, sleeping all day, and sitting up all night to gamble. So strong is the latter propensity among all these tribes, that it is said, that after parting with all their movable property, they will go so far as to stake their wives and children, and lastly even themselves for years of slavery.

Their clothing seldom consists of more than a blanket, a pair of skin breeches, and moccasins. Little or no distinction of rank seems to exist among them: the authority of the chiefs is no longer recognised, and each individual is left to govern himself.

They are addicted to stealing, and will run some risk to effect their object: thus, several blankets were stolen from the hammocks of our men while asleep in their tents, although a sailor was known to be on guard with loaded arms, only a few paces from the spot. Mr. Anderson informed me that he had employed several of them to till the land,