

planks, of which Mr. Eld made a drawing. They are represented in the wood-cut on the opposite page.

These planks were placed upright, and nothing could be learned of their origin. The colours were exceedingly bright, of a kind of red pigment.

In descending the Chickees the next morning, they soon perceived by its shores that there was an ebb and flow of the waters. Mr. Eld tried its current, and found it setting flood about one fathom per hour. As they proceeded, the shores lost some of their luxuriance of foliage, the banks had become high, and so muddy that they had some little difficulty in finding a suitable place to encamp. Some talcose slate was seen to compose the bluffs on the south side of the river, but it was so soft and fragile that it could not be brought away. The only natives seen this day were two miserable-looking beings of the Chickees tribe, but they could not understand the interpreter Joe, either in the Nisqually or Chinook dialect. The party encamped in a hemlock grove, so thick as to render it impossible for the usual nightly observations to be taken. The surf was distinctly audible from the camp during the night.

On the 31st, after passing two elbows in the river, the cape on the south of the entrance to Gray's Harbour was seen. The flood-tide was very strong against them, so that they made but slow progress, and as they opened out the harbour and entered it, they found a strong southwest wind blowing, which caused a short and disagreeable sea, that very nearly swamped their small canoe, and obliged them to run for the lee shore. Here all the things were taken out and placed to dry, on one of the huge trees that had been brought down by the freshets. From this awkward situation they were relieved by the old squaw chief, who had preceded them from Nisqually. She came over in her large canoe, with ten Indians, and offered to carry the party over to the weather shore, where they could encamp in a less exposed place. The offer was gladly accepted, and they were taken over to the village.

Mr. Eld here endeavoured to treat for the purchase of a large canoe, in which attempt his patience was soon exhausted, for when the bargain was all but closed, difficulties of a trivial nature were brought up which entirely broke off the negotiation. The Indians of this village proved themselves to be in all respects like the tribes in the interior, who will never adhere to a bargain if they can avoid it.

Mr. Eld and his party had now a great many difficulties to contend with in carrying forward a survey of the harbour. These arose as well from the weather as the want of means. The Indians for some