COLUMBIA RIVER.

two-thirds of a mile, with dangerous breakers on both sides. The depth of water is from five to seven fathoms. The space, after entering, is extensive, but the greater part of it is filled up with mudflats, which are bare at low water, and confine the harbour suitable for the anchorage of vessels to very small limits. The river Chickeeles, before entering into the harbour, increases in width to several hundred feet, and is navigable for vessels drawing twelve feet water, eight miles above its mouth. The harbour is only suitable for vessels of from one to two hundred tons; and there are places where such vessels may find security between the mud shoals, some distance within the capes.

The tides here are irregular, and influenced by the winds and weather; the time of high water at full and change was found to be 11^{h} 30^m.

Fogs prevail very frequently during the summer season. Our party remained at this place for twenty-three days, three-fourths of which time it blew a strong gale from either the southwest or northwest, accompanied with a dense fog, that rendered it impossible to see farther than half a mile.

The Indians in this portion of the country are not numerous. The region at the head of Puget Sound is inhabited by a tribe called the Toandos, whose number Mr. Eld was unable to learn. The Sachals are about forty in number: they reside about the lake of the same name, and along the river Chickeeles: they appear to be a kind and inoffensive tribe. The Sachap tribe numbers about sixty: they are not as well off for clothing as the former, and few of them were supplied with fire-arms; they reside on the borders of the Sachap river. The Chickeeles tribe number from one hundred and fifty to two hundred, and inhabit the country around Gray's Harbour: their principal place of abode is on the north point of Gray's Harbour, which is generally occupied by those passing to and fro, and where they await fine weather. Mr. Eld found this tribe supplied with good muskets, blankets, and knives : they paint their faces, and have altogether a warlike appearance. At one time during the stay of the party they were disposed to be troublesome, but the men being constantly on the watch, to protect themselves, remained unmolested, though occasionally annoyed at the disposition evinced to take advantage of any oversight. The chief of this tribe is spoken of by the party in very high terms, for his kindness to them. He seemed mortified at the events which occurred, and took much pains to keep his people in order. In this, notwithstanding he possessed little au-

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