

I now supplied the tender with water and other requisites, and gave Mr. Knox orders to take a few more soundings on the outside of the bar, and then proceed along the coast as far as latitude 42° N., and to examine it, and the mouth of the Umpqua.

Previous to leaving the Columbia river, I addressed the following letter to Dr. M'Laughlin and Mr. Douglass.

U. S. Brig Porpoise,
Baker's Bay,
October 5th, 1841.

GENTLEMEN,—

My last duty, before leaving the Columbia, I feel to be that of expressing to you my sincere thanks for the important aid and facilities which you have afforded the Expedition on all occasions, for carrying out the object of our visit to this part of the world; and be assured it will prove a very pleasing part of my duty to make a due representation of it to my government.

Your personal kindness and friendly attentions to myself and officers, from our first arrival, and also to Captain Hudson and his officers after the wreck of the Peacock, have laid me under many obligations, which I trust it may be at some future day in our power to return.

We all would request through you an expression of your feelings for the many attentions and kindnesses received, and the pleasures afforded us by the officers of the Hudson Bay Company's service, with whom we have had any intercourse, which will be long remembered with pleasure.

With my sincere wishes for the health, happiness, and prosperity of yourselves and families, I am, very truly,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES WILKES,
Commanding Exploring Expedition.

To JOHN M'LAUGHLIN and
JAMES DOUGLASS, ESQUIRES,
Chief Factors, H. B. C. Service, Vancouver.

At the same time, I wrote a letter to our government, informing them of the assistance we had received, stating the services these gentlemen had rendered us, and asking that an expression of acknowledgment might be made, through the British minister at Washington, to the Directors of the Hudson Bay Company in England.

On the night of the 15th, we parted company with the Oregon, and did not see her again until she arrived at San Francisco. We coasted along to the southward, in the Porpoise. The land is high and mountainous, and may be seen at a great distance. Soundings of dark sand