

steep hills, thickly covered with a scrubby vegetation. Immediately afterwards parties landed, and set out for a cruise in the vicinity of the anchorage. It was a perfectly still evening, and the scenery was exceedingly pretty. The wooded hills bathed in sunlight, and the placid surface of the water, which reflected the clear blue sky, the delicate clouds, and the trees growing at the margin, made a charming picture. The vegetation consisted principally of winter's bark, evergreen birch, with ferns and mosses in profusion.

HALE COVE TO GRAY HARBOUR.

Jan. 2nd.—A fine morning as we steamed from the anchorage; we pursued our way through the Messier Channel, stopped off Middle Island, where we sounded in 340 fathoms, and afterwards proceeded. The perfectly calm surface of the water made it very charming. The mountains on either side rose high out of it, clothed with trees from the base to a height of upwards of 1000 feet, with here and there numerous cascades rushing down their sides, pouring their waters into the channel. It was 6.30 P.M. when we anchored in Gray Harbour, a quiet, secluded spot. Here a second day was spent, and the weather continuing fine, it enhanced the beauty of the scenery, consisting of numerous small islands, and banks well-wooded even to the water's edge, while behind high mountains rose, capped with large quantities of snow. Excursions were made