

villages along the shores of Puget Sound, one of which is called Seattle, another Newmarket: the population of all, including Steilacoom, does not probably exceed 150 souls. The soil all along the shore of Puget Sound is poor and gravelly, and there is little or no open land with the exception of the large prairie above mentioned. The pasturage is of an inferior quality, and altogether its capabilities as an agricultural settlement have been very much overrated.

A considerable trade in piles, squared timber, and lumber, is carried on with San Francisco, and altogether there are 16 saw-mills, steam and water, erected on the sound and its tributaries, including Hood Canal, Port Orchard, &c. There is magnificent water-power on the Nisqually River which Yankee Doodle has not been slow to take advantage of; generally speaking, however, the country is badly supplied with water-power, and indeed, except at Nisqually, at Bellingham Bay, and perhaps on the Sinahomish River, there is scarcely a stream to be met with capable of turning a mill-wheel, which runs all the year round.

Following round the western coast of Admiralty Inlet, we come to the entrance of Hood's Canal, a long inlet running several miles almost parallel with Admiralty Inlet, but diverging a little to the westward; no arable land has as yet been discovered in its neighbourhood; but there are two or three small settlements, and two steam saw mills constantly at work.

Next we come to Port Townsend, a fine harbour, at the entrance of which is another small American village, consisting of some 20 inhabitants. Here the foundation of a customhouse has been laid, and there are some 5 miles of rich prairie land in the neighbourhood. Port Townsend bids fair to be one of the most thriving little towns in the district.

Opposite Port Townsend is Whidbey's Island; an island of some 40 miles in length, by from 1 to 4 in breadth, lying in the centre of Admiralty Inlet nearly north and south; on it some 30 Americans are settled, there is a good deal of open prairie land, and the soil is superior to the generality of what is to be met with on the shores of Puget Sound; it is, however, cold and sandy, and the island is badly supplied with water; there is no good anchorage in any part of it, although vessels may find sheltered anchorages along the coast according to the direction of the wind. There are not above 10 acres under cultivation on Whidbey's Island. How the families settled here manage to exist is a perfect puzzle to an Englishman; indeed the subsistence of the American settlers all along Admiralty Inlet and Puget Sound is sufficiently precarious. Salt pork, salmon, and potatoes form their principal articles of diet. A few barrels of salmon are put up on Whidbey's Island in summer and sent to San Francisco; about 200 barrels are, however,