

progress since last Summer ; though their richness, now apparently so well authenticated, was not ascertained till more lately.

There are two distinct lines of approach to these mines : one by the direct route through Frazer's River ; the other by way of the Columbia River, by Portland and the Dalles, and thence with pack animals through the trails used until recently by the Hudson's Bay Company, for their communications and for the transport of supplies for the interior.

These routes will be separately considered.

### **Route via Fort Langley.**

Fort Langley, the lowest post of the Hudson's Bay Company on Frazer's River, is situated on the left\* bank, about twenty-five miles from the entrance. Thus far the stream is navigable for vessels of considerable burthen, the precaution of sounding or buoying the sand-heads at the entrance being first adopted, in the absence of a qualified pilot. The ascent, however, short as the distance is, is rather tedious for a sailing vessel, as the river is

\* In this, and all other instances where the like distinctions may be employed, it is with reference to the *descending* stream.