

SCENES AND STUDIES
OF
SAVAGE LIFE.

CHAPTER I.

OCCUPATION OF DISTRICT.

Occupation of Alberni—Interview with the Natives—Threatened Hostilities
—Progress of the Settlement—Cook, Meares, and Jewitt's Accounts of
several of these Indian Tribes.

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He took great content, exceeding delight, in that his voyage.—BURTON.
I pr'ythee now, lead the way without any more talking.—SHAKSPEARE.
—◆—◆—

IN August, 1860, I entered Nitinaht, or Barclay Sound, on the outside, or western, coast of Vancouver Island, with the two armed vessels, *Woodpecker* and *Meg Merrilies*, manned by about fifty men, who accompanied me for the purpose of taking possession of the district now called Alberni, a name taken from the Spanish navigator who first discovered the inlet at the head of the Sound. Reaching the entrance of this inlet, we sailed for twenty miles up to the end of it—as up a natural canal—