

site side in eighteen and twenty fathoms water. Beyond this, which is the narrowest part of the channel, formed by a high, round, projecting part of the southwest shore, appearing like an island, the channel widened to nearly half a league, and an extensive opening, taking a southerly direction, indicated a communication with the ocean." This is the western channel that opens near the "Cocked Hat."

Two miles northward of this opening a bay called Grey's Inlet opens to the eastward, but no soundings are given in it. Six and a half miles northward of Hewitt Rock the channel has a depth of thirty-eight fathoms, rocky bottom. In latitude $53^{\circ} 1'$ the channel has its least width of two-fifths of a mile.

Throughout this narrow strait are numerous markings where the avalanches of snow have swept down the steep mountain sides and carried timber and earth with them, leaving tracks of bare rock.

In some cases the trees have been forced into the channel; in others their dead trunks, in grotesque confusion, are found at the foot of the slide.

About latitude $53^{\circ} 05'$ on the western shore is a cascade formed by a great body of water pouring over a rocky incline from a lake at the base of an immense circle of perpendicular mountains. At the proper season it is a great resort for the natives when fishing for salmon, as the cascade is not too high for the salmon to effect an entrance to the lake. Several other lakes, and three rushing, tumbling overflows, falling three hundred to four hundred feet, are seen in the next twenty miles, all on the same side of the channel.

Through this channel Vancouver says he could find no bottom with one hundred and sixty-five to one hundred and eighty-five fathoms of line, but the indications on the admiralty chart do not confirm these great depths. Off Point Kingcome and to the westward of it there are soundings without bottom in one hundred and eighty-nine and one hundred and seventy-nine fathoms.

In the narrow channel Vancouver says that "in the vicinity of $53^{\circ} 14'$ Mr. Whidbey discovered a deep cove near this locality, a smoke issuing from among the stones on the shore, that at low tide formed a kind of beach. On examination a run of hot water was found passing among the stones, which, at high tide must be at least six feet beneath the surface of the sea. They were not able to discover its source, and, having no thermometer, its degree of heat could not be ascertained. Some of the seamen attempted to wash their hands in it, but found the heat inconvenient. It had a saltish taste, and Mr. Whidbey was of opinion that the rapidity with which it flowed could scarcely permit of its receiving this savor from the sea water."—Vol. II, p. 299.

A deep bay opens abreast of Work Island, in latitude $53^{\circ} 12'$, and stretches two miles northward. Abreast of a large landslide on the east shore, in latitude $53^{\circ} 14'$, the mid-channel depth is sixty-four fathoms, over rocky bottom.

At Point Kingcome one of the three great arms stretches northward forty miles, with anchorage about three miles from the point, on the east shore, at the mouth of Fisherman or Ribachy Creek. From Point Kingcome the main channel