

document—Ho. of Rep., No. 43, which describes the situation and extent of the several tracts, and shows them to have been fairly purchased of the Indians. For the last twenty years, he has talked, written and argued much upon the purchases; and has suffered \* greatly on account of them.

The descriptions of the tracts on the Island as given in the deeds, are said, by those unfriendly to the claim, to be vague. This is a mistake. They are sufficiently definite to indentify, within a single rood, the boundaries of the several tracts. The geometrical figure, length of the sides, and diameter of each are given. The only thing doubtful about them is the precise identity of the points of the centers. The latitudes and longitudes of those points may not have been exactly determined by Capt. Kendrick. Nautical instruments, in his day, were more imperfect than now; and astronomical observations could not be accurately made by them. Latitude was seldom determined within three miles; and longitude within six or eight. The claimants have a sure way of ascertaining the precise centers. It would make, however, no material difference should they be established a few rods this or that way. To illustrate—the Clyquot purchase is described in the deed, as having its sides 18 miles N. 18 miles S. 18 miles E. and 18 miles W. of the village of Opisitar which is the center, and in lat.  $49^{\circ} 10' N.$  and long.  $126^{\circ} 2' W.$  The enquiry is, after the center of a village which is clearly described in the historical accounts of the early voyages to that coast.

The deeds taken south of the 49th parallel were lost; nevertheless, there is much evidence to satisfy of the situation and extent of the territory covered by them. They were taken in the name of the owners; and Kendrick, doubtless, felt less interest in them than in those taken in his own name; and, therefore, neglected to transmit them with the others to Mr Jefferson at the head of the State Department.

As to the validity of the purchases—It will be recollected, that

“While it is *not strange* the H. B. Company, first seeking to prevent the ruin of their trading monopolies in Oregon, and afterwards, to *perpetuate* possession of the Island, should be so bent on his destruction. But it is *wonderful*, the combined forces of the most powerful of wicked men, and the powers of moral darkness with them, should not have long before this terminated his earthly sojourn. Wonderful, —feeble and unsustained, comparatively, by mortal help, he should have succeeded in bringing about that *ruin*; and in throwing insurmountable difficulties in the way of that desired *perpetual possession*; and, after thirty years of constant and daily suffering of the wrathful vengeance of the company’s powerful and implacable troops, he should be alive on earth, and able to tell, in any way (stammering and miserable, indeed) the story of his troubles and tribulations. It is because of he “shield of thy salvation,” O merciful God!