Olympia, Washington Territory
February 26th 1854.

Sir

the report of the ~~separate route~~ journey undertaken pursuant to your orders, for the examination of the country lying between Shoalwater Bay and Puget Sound, as also of a town through the sound itself. This Bay, the entrance to which lies about twenty five miles north of Cape Disappointment, approaches in its Southern extremity to within four miles of Bakers Bay, and fifteen of Grays Harbor. It's length from North to South is by estimate about thirty miles, and its average width eight. The width of the entrance is reported at ~~ten~~ five miles. It has three channels, all pretty straight, but the northern only a good beating channel. The greater part of the bay is bare at low tide, presenting extensive mud flats so that vessels can approach the shore in but few places.

There are three routes used by the Indians in crossing ~~between~~ the bay & the Columbia river. One of these is by the Wal-la-cut creek at Bakers Bay, with a portage of about a mile and a half to another running into Shoalwater Bay. Here the land is so low that it is

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