up those rivers, but vessels could not ascend so far.
The country upon the bay is like most of that in the
Coast section of the Territory, heavily wooded with fir, Spruce,
hemlock and cedar or Cypress. Upon the rivers
White and Vine Maple, and Alder occur. The timber
is good and accessible, but there are few sites for
saw mills. One mill only, had been erected at the time
of my visit, and that was not yet in operation.
A considerable amount of piles and square timber has
however been shipped to California
The principal trade so far has been in oysters
which abound on the flats. They are taken up during
the low tides of summer from their natural beds, and
separated and replanted as in the States. They sell
along side the vessel at $1.50 per bushel, and in San Francisco
are worth $4.
The Salt salmon, sturgeon and other kinds of fish
are abundant, and the bay will most probably derive a
considerable importance from this source.
Independant of its fisheries, it has another resource in
the agricultural country lying upon its principal streams.
Of this the largest body is on the Willapah river.
The particular object of my journey was to explore
the route connecting Shoalwater Bay with the Cowlitz
An old Indian trail, disused for some years
since the extinction of the tribe through whose country
it ran, was said to lead from some point on the

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