Willopah and intersect the road ~~in the neighborhood of~~ from the Cowlitz farms to Puget sound. ~~Fords~~. The journey according to report took but two days. I found it impossible to procure Indian guides in consequence of the season, the few remaining on the bay who had ever travelled it, being unwilling to venture out, and representing the trail as entirely overgrown and difficult to follow. Three of the citizens however, Messrs J. L. Brown, Charles Stuart and Samuel Woodward, volunteered to accompany me and we concluded at least to make the attempt. On 17th Dec. we proceeded up the Willopah about fifteen miles in a canoe, and then landing, started on foot, taking with us six days provisions. The nature of the country not permitting us to follow any divide, we were compelled to travel through the river bottom, fording the stream occasionally at the bends. Finding after three days travel that we had made but fifteen miles and being apprehensive that should we be overtaken by heavy rains or snow, we could neither advance or return, I thought it prudent to abandon the attempt for the time being, the more especially as we had got hold of the trail, and succeeded in ascertaining the direction of the river and the character of the country before us

The general course of the route will be seen by reference to the map. The lower part of the river is bordered with tide lands, at first open, afterwards covered with swamp spruce, but affording here and there higher land suitable for grazing. The river is a mile wide at its mouth narrowing ~~however~~ to twenty five yards as a general

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