~~those rivers~~
~~and the Chihalis to decrease~~ just as the same pro-
cess of deposition has ~~filled up~~ shoaled the heads of ~~the~~
existing inlets and ~~shoaled~~ created the exten-
sive marshes ~~lying~~ and ~~shoals~~ flats lying between
Whidbys Island and the main.

The general face of the country upon the sound
is that of a slightly rolling plateau, the ~~general~~
elevation of which is about 100 feet rising however
as it approaches the foot of the mountains. The
banks ~~of the sound & inlets~~ are usually bluff, formed
of sand, gravel & boulders, with a slight admixture of clay & resting on
a substratum of stiff blue clay. Elsewhere the sand
is replaced with sandstone containing lignite ~~&~~
coal. The soil at the head of the sound is for
the most part gravelly, a character which it takes
at the Skookum Chuck river & retains ~~to the~~
as far as the Puyallup. Lower down it is ~~of clay~~
~~a light grayish~~ clay of a light grayish color. The
gravelly lands bear pretty good grass, but on being bro-
ken up, the mould leaches through. [It is on the
gravelly prairies lying between Olympia & the Skoo-
kum chuck that the mounds occur mentioned
by Capt Wilkes & ~~ascribed by him to an artificial ori-~~
to which he ascribes an artificial origin. Without
commenting upon the impossibility of any savage
race coming with these monuments so extensive
a ~~tract~~ of ~~land~~ country, it may be proper to mention
that a very careful examination has utterly
failed to discover ~~the~~ any regularity in their arr-
angement as he imagined & that the pavement

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