more Northern ones the most extensive. Farther up they run through narrow timbered bottoms, bordered by high bluffs, the escarpments of the table land, until at the foot of the mountains they are cañoned. It is by these streams and the depressions passes? occurring at their sources that the Indians of the interior obtain access to the sound, for the purposes of trade, They are none of them navigable except by canoes; nor, even in that way for great distances. Their course is rapid and they are subject to frequent overflow, being alike affected by the heavy rains and by the rapid melting of the snows on the mountains. The principal freshets arise from the former cause, and occur in Winter. The greater part of the country is timbered, but there are open prairies on Whidbey's Island, and from the Puyallup around the head of the sound. These last are of gravelly soil and extend with intermediate belts of timber to those on the upper waters of the Chehalis and the Cowlitz. A distinguishing feature in this district is the number of lakes, some of considerable size which are scattered through it. The largest of these are those near Bellingham Bay and that emptying into the Dwamish. The Western side of Hood's canal, like the straits of Fuca, is bordered by mountains which form the Western wall of this basin. No streams of any size fall into it except the Skokomish, which enters at the elbow. The mountain group thus included between, the Chehalis, the coast, the straits of Fuca and Hoods