a vague claim by chiefs to territorial sovereignty, as for example, among the Makahs, where any wrecked property floats ashore, the proprietor claims from the finder a portion of it, and it is said payment is sometimes exacted for the use of particular pieces of ground. Cases have been mentioned of a claim by a chief to the ownership of the whole country occupied by his tribe; but these do not seem to have any foundation in acknowledged right, or to be actually maintained. Sneetturn, the former chief of the Skagits is said to have made such pretensions. As regards the fisheries, they are held in common, and no tribe pretends to claim from another, or from individuals, seigniorage for the right of taking. In fact such a claim would be inconvenient to all parties, as the Indians move about, on the Sound particularly, from one to another locality, according to the season, nor do they have disputes, as to their hunting grounds. Land and sea, appear to be open to all with whom they are not at war. Their local attachments are very strong.* As regards the right of property in houses or goods, their ideas are naturally clearer. The maker of any thing is its necessary owner, until he voluntarily parts with its possession. So also the captor of fish or game; the one who digs roots, or raises vegetables; but it

and they part from their favorite grounds, and burial places with the utmost reluctance.