saved, by a pious veneration, from the ferocity of war or the more dangerous temptations of individual gain. The whole of the walls, as well as the door were decorated with strange figures, cut and painted on them; and besides these, were several wooden images of men, some of them so old and decayed as to have almost lost their shape, which were all placed against the sides of the vaults. These images as well as those, in the houses we have lately seen, do not appear to be at all the objects of adoration: in this place, they were most probably intended as resemblances of those whose decease they indicate, and when we observe them in houses, they occupy the most conspicuous part; but are treated more like ornaments than objects of worship. Near the vaults, which are still standing, are the remains of others on the ground, completely rotted and covered with moss: and as they are formed of the most durable pine, and cedar timber, there is every appearance, that for a very long series of years, this retired spot, has been the depository for the Indians near this place." * Another depository of this kind upon an island in the river, a few miles above, gave it the name of Sepulchre Island

* Lewis & Clarke. Vol P. See also Ross Cox. Vol. 1. p. 124.

The Watlala, a tribe of the upper Chinooks, whose burial place is here described, are now nearly extinct, but a number of the sepulchres still remain in different states of preservation. The position of the body as noticed by Clarke, is I believe of universal observ-