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To encourage this industry, and in accordance with a wish expressed by the Chiefs, the Commissioners assured them that they would recommend the Provincial Government to grant them a special privilege of timber cutting on the West side of David's Heath from the Hummaehin Reserve at the head down to Point Patrick.

With a view to this indeed, the Commissioners had, before leaving Victoria, asked for the temporary, temporary, of this tract of land, a request which was at once accorded to by the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works.

Before parting with the Chiefs the usual ceremony of speeches on both sides, took place, in terms differing little from the formula already given, and which it is needless here to repeat. The Chiefs then took leave of the Commissioners with every expression of satisfaction.

Combe, Plover Island.

Striking Camp early on the 8th December, we embarked at 7 a. m. and in pursuance of our plan of operations, ran up the Maianina Strait and, rounding the North end.

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end of Texada Island, struck across for Vancouver Island—Notwithstanding the prevalence of a dense fog we traced our course with accuracy by Compass and finally groped our way into Comox Harbour (Port Augusta of the Admiralty Charts) an hour after noon—Here we pitched our Camp.

At this place we remained until Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of December, occupied during the interval in making the necessary enquiries to enable us to decide as to the requirements of the Indians of the neighbourhood—These peoples amounting in all to about 90 souls, separated into three closely allied branches, (see *curios retarus*), had a Reserve of about 250 acres situated on the left bank near the mouth of the Courtney (or Puntledge) River picturesque and charming, and valuable owing to its position, but sandy and therefore of little worth for agricultural purposes—The evidences of a very numerous population having formerly dwelt here are apparent, but the appearance of the survivors indicates rapid decay, and a marked contrast between their condition and that of the neighbouring sept upon the