

tents, cooking utensils, and clothing, all vying with each other in affording assistance.

When all hopes of getting any thing from the wreck were at an end, Captain Hudson sent the crew to Astoria, in the boats, with orders to form an encampment there, where they found an ample supply of provisions in the stores that had been sent from the Sandwich Islands, in the Wave, and were supplied with clothing by the kindness of Dr. M'Laughlin and the officers of the Hudson Bay Company.

As soon as I learned the exact state of affairs in the river, I determined to make such disposition of the squadron as would be most advantageous, in the performance, under the new circumstances, of the duties which remained to be accomplished.

With this intent, I resolved to shift my pennant to the Porpoise, and with that vessel, the Flying-Fish, and the boats of the Peacock, to survey the Columbia to its extreme navigable point. This force would be amply sufficient to perform this survey in the shortest possible time, and yet enable me to despatch a party, as I had before intended, through the southern section of the Oregon Territory to San Francisco. The Vincennes, to which I ordered Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold, I resolved to send to San Francisco, to make a survey of the Sacramento river, while I was engaged upon that of the Columbia.

In conformity with this plan, I directed the Vincennes to lie off and on at the mouth of the river, while I proceeded in with the Porpoise to make the necessary changes and transfers. Taking Mr. Knox, and Ramsey the pilot, on board the latter vessel, we passed the bar and stood towards Astoria, but were compelled by the tide to anchor before reaching that place. On the morning of the 7th, we anchored in front of Astoria, where all the necessary arrangements were completed; and Lieutenant-Commandant Ringgold, on the next day, proceeded in the Flying-Fish, with the transferred officers, to join the Vincennes. As soon as this was effected, that vessel bore away for San Francisco, and the tender returned to the river.

As it became absolutely necessary to economize our time as much as possible, every disposition was now made of the men and boats. I soon, however, found that, although I had sent a number of men to the Vincennes, there would be many that could not be well accommodated in the smaller vessel, and I was desirous of procuring some extra accommodation. Fortunately, the American brig, the Thomas H. Perkins, Captain Varney, was lying at Astoria; and a reasonable