

bottom; while high water mark indicated  $11\frac{1}{2}$  feet above the level then taken, and 8 feet above an observation made in June last.

At Teslin Lake an Indian trail from Taku Inlet terminates. One 7 feet by 9 feet log shanty dignified by the name of the "post" was the only evidence of the advance of civilization in the locality, and it contained but a meagre quantity of supplies.

Teslin Lake was reached on 13th October. I was fortunate in being able to at once obtain a "scow" boat, 22 feet long, and a "skiff" boat of smaller size, and in these boats I despatched Messrs. Saint-Cyr, D.L.S., and Morley Ogilvie, B.A.Sc., with three men to survey Teslin Lake and its outflowing river, of the same name, to its confluence with the Lewes River, with instructions to Mr. Ogilvie to part company with Mr. Saint-Cyr at the portage leading to McClintock River and Lake Marsh (on the Skagway route) and from the point of separation to make a track survey with copious notes of the elevations, and physical features of the country passed over, also from Lake Marsh to proceed south to Taku Arm of Tagish Lake, and continue his survey and notes from a point where terminated by Dr. Dawson in 1887, on the supposed good route for a road to Skagway, via White Pass, and where I proposed to rejoin him, my intention being to return to the sea at Juneau by Taku trail and inlet (or by Taku and Kattine rivers to Atlin Lake, &c.) as I learned that engineers, under orders from a private company were examining that route to Teslin Lake; however, in this I was disappointed, as neither white or Indian packers were available, and it being impracticable to take horses over the mountains so late in the season, I was thus forced to return to the Stikine River.

As Mr. Saint-Cyr's survey of Teslin Lake and river, and Mr. Ogilvie's work, as mentioned above, will form the subject of a later report, I will now only mention that Teslin Lake was found to be 60 miles long and from 2 to 4 wide, generally straight and with good depth of water, and teeming with magnificent trout. Teslin or Hootalinqua River, from the north end of lake continues for 25 miles (to McClintock Portage) in a generally direct N.N.W. course, and I learn by wire from Mr. Saint-Cyr that it is wide and of ample depth for passage of steamers to the Lewes River.

The return journey was commenced on October 14th, over the same route to the Koketsi and Tahltan divide, thence up the hillside and through a valley to the main or south fork of the Tahltan, a rapid stream 80 feet wide and two feet deep, and evidently draining a considerable area of the high land to the south. From the trail crossing, the valley of this stream extends in a south-westerly direction and is flanked by rolling ridge-like hills lying in a north-western direction and all densely clad with a small growth of spruce and pine.

From the crossing of the Tahltan the route continues in a south-easterly direction in the valley of a small stream and over easy ground slopes and benches to Telegraph Creek divide, which is an open, straight gladelike pass from 150 to 300 yards wide, covered in the bottom, and for a few hundred feet up the slopes with a coarse description of tufted grass and scrub willows, growing in a west surface soil.

The elevation of the summit of this pass is 3,600 feet above sea level, or 3,100 feet higher than the Stikine River at the mouth of Telegraph Creek. The flanking mountains rise some 2,000 feet higher and are covered with an open growth of small spruce and willow trees, gradually decreasing in density and size as the timber limit is reached.