

bears, beavers, frogs, birds, and in two instances crocodiles. How the latter in this climate could have been known to the Indians is not explained, save that in answer to a question on that point, one of the Indians said, "they understood such animals once lived here." Whether intended or not, the figures are decidedly saurian in aspect, and are decidedly too large to be intended for beavers or other animals known here in modern ages, being fully twelve or fifteen feet in length, with the long tail, long jaws, and fore arm of the crocodile clearly defined. They are all decaying rapidly, and will ere long fall and crumble to pieces. The canoes of these Indians are large, broad, deep and long. Two we measured, one thirty-five feet in length, six feet in breadth, and four in depth; another, the "Koooley Kiatan" (the Racer) belonging to the Chief of the Stikine tribe, upwards of fifty feet in length, and of similar proportions. Some logs of fine pine timber were also lying on the beach, four and five feet in diameter, straight and long like the well-known Douglas pine, without knot or branch—cut, it was said, in the immediate vicinity of the Fort.

After two days' delay at Wrangell, owing to the rise and fall of the tide, and the want of conveniences for the landing and transhipment of cargo, on Wednesday, the 23rd, we started up the Stikine in the stern-wheel paddle steamer "Beaver," having taken one week instead of the usual period of four days for the first stage of our trip from Victoria to Wrangell. The broad entrance and extensive discoloration of the water, spreading over an area of several miles, induced the idea that we were about to enter a great and mighty river. In a short time it narrowed to a tortuous, shallow stream of little depth, spreading over sandy flats in some places, running with great force in others, twisting and turning in and among mountains, so that at no time

could a mile ahead be seen. Yet the body of water that came down was immense, and before we arrived at Glenora we learnt to our cost that however humble it looked it was indeed a mighty torrent if not a mighty river.

About seven miles from the mouth, on the right, a little stream runs into the river from a hill in the vicinity. The stone bed of this stream is filled with garnets, well-cut rhomboids in shape, varying in size from a pin's head to a small egg. No commercial value is attached to the discovery. The scenery for the first thirty miles, or to the conventional but yet undetermined boundary line between Alaska and British Columbia, though bold, is utterly uninviting for useful purposes, and until the mountain ranges are passed the weather is generally wet and misty from constant rain. Seward must have intended his purchase as a Siberian exile for discomfited States' Rights Democrats after the close of the war.

At dusk we "hitched," in the language of the country, to a tree at Bucks, about thirty-two miles from the mouth of the river, just below the first grand glacier looming up on the opposite side, and at daylight next morning commenced its examination from the deck of the steamer. Parallel to the river, the glacier is about three miles in front, with a wall varying apparently from three to five hundred feet in height, the first part being where the flow appears to have been continuing—the latter where portions have been abruptly broken off. Between this ice wall and the river, along the whole front there is a moraine of gravel and boulders, rising in height one or two hundred feet, then sloping down towards the glacier, leaving a ravine between the two. Between the moraine and the river is a belt of land half a mile in depth, and on the bank of the river are seen embedded large boulders three and four tons in size, which have been borne there by