

SIMON FRASER, OF NEW CALEDONIA

We had to pass where no human being should venture ; yet in those places there is a regular footpath impressed, or rather indented, upon the very rocks by frequent travelling. Besides this, steps which are formed like a ladder or the shrouds of a ship, by poles hanging to one another and crossed at certain distances with twigs, the whole suspended from the top to the foot of immense precipices and fastened at both extremities to stones and trees, furnished a safe and convenient passage to the natives ; but we, who had not had the advantage of their education and experience, were often in imminent danger when obliged to follow their example."

On the 28th, Fraser reached a village of the Achinrow Indians, where he and his men enjoyed the luxury of boiled salmon. Here again canoes were obtained, and the explorer embarked on the final stage of this most eventful journey. The following day they reached a point where the river divided into several channels. Proceeding down what