

tion are delightful after the dreary hills over which we have passed, and we have now to congratulate ourselves at having escaped from the last ridges of the Black mountains. On leaving Thompson's creek we passed two small islands, and at 23 miles' [total] distance camped among some timber on the north, opposite a small creek, which we named Bull¹⁰ creek. The bighorn is in great quantities, and must bring forth their young at a very early season, as they are now half-grown. One of the party saw a large bear also, but being at a distance from the river, and having no timber to conceal himself, he would not venture to fire.

May 29th. Last night we were alarmed by a new sort of enemy. A buffalo swam over from the opposite side to the spot where lay one of our canoes, over which he clambered to the shore; then taking fright he ran full speed up the bank toward our fires, and passed within 18 inches of the heads of some of the men, before the sentinel could make him change his course. Still more alarmed, he ran down between four fires and within a few inches of the heads of the second row of the men, and would have broken into our lodge if the barking of the dog had not stopped him. He suddenly turned to the right, and was out of sight in a moment, leaving us all in confusion, everyone seizing his rifle and inquiring the cause of the alarm. On learning what had happened, we had to rejoice at suffering no more injury than the damage to some guns which were in the canoe which the buffalo crossed.

In the morning early we left our camp, and proceeded as usual by the cord. We passed an island and two sand-bars, and at the distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles came to a handsome river which discharges on the south, and which we ascended to

¹⁰ From the incident narrated May 29th; charted, nameless, by Clark; last creek S. below Judith's river; now called Dog creek; perhaps from some mistaking of L. and C.'s "Littledog" creek of May 24th, now left far behind. This stream is only two or three miles below the mouth of the Judith, and therefore cannot be that Dog river which Twining charts ten or twelve miles lower down. Some cartographer might win fame by inscribing "Bulldog" creek.