

McGowan's friends and admirers would, if provoked, break into serious insubordination ; and he at once instructed me to drop down the river to Hope and Langley, and order up the engineers, marines and bluejackets left at those places.

The utmost precaution was taken about my journey. Mr. Allard, the Hudson's Bay Company's officer at Yale, was instructed to have a small canoe launched unseen by the miners, who, it was thought, might endeavor to stop me, as they no doubt easily could have done. The darkness was waited for, and, the canoe being launched and dropped about half a mile down the river, Mr. Allard came to the house for me, and led me to it along the river's bank. As we dropped down the stream I was afraid even to light a pipe lest we should be stopped at Hill's Bar. Absurd as all this now seems—especially as I heard on my return that the miners knew perfectly well of my starting—it was not without its use at the time. The promptitude with which Captain Grant appeared on the spot with the engineers at daylight next morning astonished the miners a good deal, and it need not be assumed that, because they apologized and paid their fines, they would have done so equally had coercion not been threatened.

Reaching Hope at half-past eight that night, I very much astonished Captain Grant by telling him that he was to start for Yale at once, and, landing his men below Hill's Bar on the opposite side of the river, to march thence to Yale. Having given these instructions I embarked in the canoe once again, and about midnight—spinning down the Fraser being a very different matter to struggling up against its current—reached the "Enterprise" which was to convey me to Langley, and bring the men there up. Here a slight delay took place, as the steamer could not be got ready to start until day-break ; but away we went the instant dawn broke, and reached Langley in the afternoon of the following day, where, the "Enterprise" having wooded, every one was got aboard, and we were struggling up against the current by six p.m., reaching Smess River by nine or ten that night, and Cornish Bar by 8:30 the following night.

There the "Enterprise's" further progress was effectually barred, and, taking a canoe again, I made my way to Hope, where I found that further instructions had come from the Colonel to the effect