

Wednesday, 10th November.—Snow, last night, but Indians say "winter is not yet." "Dick Eggs" came in to-day and I engaged him at \$75 a month as guide. This amount will be paid as long as he acts guide, but if I have to hire others at Sylvester or elsewhere, his pay will then be cut down one-half. I am to take him through and send him back here via the coast and Edmonton, if I cannot send him back direct with a party. These are the only terms I can get him on, and he is the only one who knows the passes through the mountains. We go by Half-way River to Fort Graham and thence to Sylvester. He says there is no chance of taking horses through the mountains now, too late in the year, snowing.

Thursday, 11th November.—We helped Gunn to draw up the big boat out of the river. Repairing dog harness and getting things made for trip, snowing.

Friday, 12th November.—Shot blind mare to feed dogs and make dried meat for them. No fish here. The 100 pounds dried meat from Regina was fed on the way up from Dunvegan. No dried moose to be had. Heavy snow storm.

Saturday, 13th November.—Working on dog harness, &c. Snowing all day. Nearly blinded by smoke in teepee. At night had to bandage our eyes.

Sunday, 14th November.—Fine bright day. Indians came in this p.m. with sleighs, moccasins, &c. River closing fast.

Monday, 15th November.—Making shafts for sleighs for horses. Fine day. Packing supplies for transport. Women working on clothing. River closing fast.

Tuesday, 16th November.—Heavy snow storm and rough day. Bought bull from the company and killed him to make dried meat for dogs. Got 175 pounds of dried meat and two feeds for dogs out of him. I have to keep at least 14 or 15 of the best horses for sleighs and to kill at the mountains, and the rest are thin, and very little meat on them. Sold Pinto, pony, to Dick Egg for \$40 to go against his pay.

Wednesday, 17th November.—Napoleon returned from camp to-night. He is still uncertain about going with us, as he says his children are sick. I hope to get him, but will not wait after things are ready. Two men looking for birch for snowshoes. It is hard work getting Indians to do anything, and they cannot be hurried like white men. Snowing hard and rough day. Hauling wood for camp. I got a bad toss from sleigh upsetting against a hidden log, coming down hill; was sitting on the load to steer and was thrown about 15 feet hitting my head against a green log lying in the snow. Nothing worse than a shaking up and loss of some skin. Working on shafts, sleighs, &c.

Thursday, 18th November.—Work getting on slowly. Snowing hard. It seems endless work, but there is no use starting out until everything is in order, and I can only keep on hoping for the best. Weather also may change for the better with change in the moon, and the snow is very light for sleighing yet. Gave Napoleon medicine for his children. Ice running to day. Very stiff in my neck and shoulders from fall.

Friday, 19th November.—Fine bright day. Hard frost. Shafts finished to-day. Killed a horse which I took in trade for a small bay mare, and dried the best parts for dogs. Napoleon's children much better and he has decided to go with me. He got wood for two pairs snowshoes to-day. Women working on snowshoes. Working on sleighs and horse collars. Four of the Americans came over on the ice to-day. Made out contracts for men to sign.

Saturday, 20th November.—Snowing in morning. Afternoon fine. We hauled 17 loads wood with the dogs this afternoon (5 of us including Gunn). The rest working on sleighs, &c. Cold.

Sunday, 21st November.—42° below zero last night.

Monday, 22nd November.—One horse "Stick in the mud" died last night. It was not frozen hard when found, and was cut up for dog feed. Working on collars, &c., "Joe Moosekeyah" sick.