

The first map which I might quote is that published in 1871 under the direction of J. W. Trutch, then Commissioner of Lands and Works for British Columbia. It is carefully drawn and, as regards the south of the province, it is, I think, as accurate as the information available at the time of its compilation could make it. But, respecting the Stuart's Lake district, and especially that portion of it covered by a map on a large scale lately designed by the writer and which is now in the hands of the engraver, it can be described as that which the French call a *quantité négligeable*.

Truth to speak, it does not pretend to be much more, since it covers the land drained by the upper Nechaco with large lakes sketched in outlines very much at random and, as to place names, it contents itself with the vague mention: lake country.

Thereon, French Lake (or Lac Français) itself, a large body of water now well known, is noted in mere outlines; the course of the Nechaco is shortened by a good half; the river which connects French with Fraser Lake is supposed to be twice the length of the latter while it is but half as long; Hehn (or Thathœk) Lake, instead of being with Green Lake, the existence of which is not even dreamt of, the headwaters of Mud River, is made the source of the Black Water, etc.

Three years after the publication of that map (1874), Mr. M. Smith, a civil engineer in search of a route for the then projected Canadian Pacific Railway, went from Fort Fraser to St. Mary's (or T'sest'jato) Lake and, following the northern shore of the latter, reached in the south-south-west the Dean or Salmon River, at a point where I was to get myself ten years later.

But that gentleman had, almost in all cases, the bad luck of crossing in their width only the lake and river systems he met, so that he could not add much to the meager contingent of data already in the possession of geographers.

Such as it is, the result of this partial survey is consigned to the geological map of the late Dr. Dawson, published in 1875-76.