

had previously become acquainted with many of them while staying at the Rocky Mountain House during the preceding winter, when I had met them in several hunting excursions, and when they go about in small camps and have no opportunities of becoming excited by war or liquor.

The next cause was Dr. Hector's great success in his profession, especially among the women and children, which called forth their astonishment, and in many cases deep, though undemonstrative gratitude. Although we were always well armed and on the alert, and never in their power (save in the very large camps along with the head chiefs), yet I think it in a great measure owing to the causes above mentioned that we have succeeded in effecting the objects of the Expedition without experiencing any disastrous results from a single one of those tribes.

However, I do not consider that a total stranger to them would be equally safe, or that any one accompanied by a military force (unless that force was a very large one) could do so with impunity. In either case his horses would be stolen, and this, of course, would lead to fighting and loss of life; for these Indians traverse the plains together in very large camps of from 400 to 600 tents.

I have great pleasure in alluding severally to the members of the Expedition, from whom I have always received the most cordial and efficient support.

Dr. Hector, whose able assistance and exertions mainly contributed to the success of the Expedition, was most indefatigable not only during the general exploration seasons, but also during the several winter excursions, which he prosecuted in snow shoes, accompanied by dogs drawing provisions on sleighs, exposed to the hardships of an almost arctic temperature.

During the winter of 1857-8 Dr. Hector mapped the whole of the North Saskatchewan, from Carlton to Rocky Mountain House, a distance of nearly 9° of longitude.

Starting at the commencement of the second winter from Edmonton, he passed over to the glaciers of the South Saskatchewan, to the Assiniboine, a tributary of the Arctic Ocean, and thence to Jasper House, through the Rocky Mountain forests, as far as 116° of longitude: besides such arduous journeys so ably accomplished, Dr. Hector had the charge of making the maps, both geographical as well as geological. I have also the pleasure of recording the efficient services of my secretary, Mr. Sullivan, a most able astronomical observer and surveyor, also a most accomplished mathematician; on him devolved the principal labours of computation. Besides his avocations of writing, observing, and computing, Mr. Sullivan, late in the season of 1859, accomplished successfully a most arduous branch expedition, viz., the connexion of the western exit of the Kananaskis pass with the Columbia River, above that point where it intersects the boundary line, and a most important link in an exclusively British communication between the Saskatchewan and British Columbia.

Of Mons. Bourgeau, our botanist, I have also to speak with the highest praise. Ever intent on and devoted to his department of science, he not only prosecuted his researches indefatigably in the field, but also was most careful and successful in preserving his specimens in the evenings and during night under the most trying occasions, never allowing fatigue or any other adverse circumstances to interfere with the interests of his collections.

The men employed by the Expedition were chosen from the French and English half-breeds, most of whom had (more or less frequently) been in the employment of the Hudson Bay Company. These men were engaged generally for the summer, or exploring season, commencing in May and terminating in October, after which they became entitled to be sent back free of expense to where they came from, in addition to their wages.

At the termination of the season the men were discharged, with the exception of two or three employed continually during the winter guarding the horses, and one who attended on us when we resided at a Hudson Bay Company's post. When any of us started on a winter trip, a man, or, perhaps, two were engaged specially, and frequently we obtained the services of men in the employment of the Hudson Bay Company, by permission of the officer of the post from which we started.

Beyond the immediate neighbourhood of Red River Settlement no money of any coinage whatsoever is in use, and all payments are made in kind; the men, therefore, had to be paid in such articles as coats, trousers, blankets, guns, ammunition, tea, tobacco, axes, knives, &c., and as the Hudson Bay Company's stores never contained a sufficiency of such goods for the purposes of their own trade, I organized a further supply (in anticipation of the payments at the end of each season to men employed by the Expedition). These supplies were forwarded to me from Norway House up the Saskatchewan to Carlton in 1857 and to Edmonton in 1858, along with supplies of tea, sugar, and flour, for the use of the Expedition.