

# EXPLANATION OF AN INDIAN MAP

OF THE RIVERS, LAKES, TRAILS AND MOUNTAINS FROM THE  
CHILKAHT TO THE YUKON DRAWN BY THE CHILKAHT  
CHIEF, KOHKLUX, IN 1869,

GEORGE DAVIDSON, PH. D., SC. D.  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

*Reprinted from Mazda, April, 1901*

Fifteen years ago that region of Alaska and Canada lying between the coast, under the St. Elias and Yakutat ranges, and the Yukon River; and between the Chilkah and Lewes Rivers on the east, and the White River on the west, was a terra incognita. It covered an area of about 50,000 square miles, and was drained by unknown tributaries of the White, Yukon and Lewes Rivers; by the Chilkah and the All-segh'; and the large Katch-kwae-wugh' and the Kaskar Wurleh. It contained numerous large lakes first made known to us in 1869.

At a location on the north bend of the All-segh', where the line of Indian travel was comparatively easy towards the west, north, east and southeast, a yearly meeting of different tribes took place for purposes of traffic between the interior Indians and the Chilkahs, who were strong enough to control the coast traffic.

A very large part of the above territory is drained into the Pacific by the river known on the coast as the All-segh', which breaks through the St. Elias and Yakutat ranges about fifty-five miles east of Yakutat Bay, with a maximum current of ten miles.

As a matter of fact, the whole area of Alaska and the Northwest Territory of Canada was unknown except along the river courses; and even these were very imperfectly laid down. We have now partial reports and maps from modern travelers, as Raymond, Dall, Russell, McGrath, Turner, Allen, Abercrombie, Krause, Schwatka, Wells, Glave and others; and from Dawson, Ogilvie, McConnell and others, for the Canadian Government. Of those who earlier struck into the unknown region we have mentioned were Wells and Glave, but they were not properly outfitted with instrumental means for geographical determinations.

It happened that upon our second trip to Alaska we obtained material that was important in laying down two routes from our station on the Chilkah to Fort Selkirk, at the junction of the Pelly and Lewes, where they form the Yukon, and we now propose to pre-