

seeing white men or obtaining supplies from others until the close of the season of open water.

Early in July we began the ascent of Chipman river, without anything to guide us but the determination to keep constantly forcing our way up the stream until we had reached its source. To give you some idea of the difficulties of travelling in this way, I may mention that we spent the whole of one valuable day searching the shores of a small lake, and at last we found the river that we wished to ascend only four miles, or one hour's travel, from where we had entered it. On the shores of Selwyn Lake, at the head of the river, we met a small band of Indians, but they declared that they knew nothing about the country further north, except that it was swarming with cannibal Eskimos who would certainly eat us. This may seem very ridiculous to us, but it was very dispiriting to our Indian canoe-men, some of whom immediately endeavoured to leave us.

From the north end of Selwyn Lake we crossed the height of land, here an almost level plain, to the shore of Daly Lake, and our search for its outlet began. When the river was found we determined to follow it, if possible, wherever the current would take us, whether to the Arctic Ocean or to Hudson Bay. The Chippewyans had told us that a river called Telzoa (or wide shallow) river flowed northward from this lake to To' bon Lake, that their fathers used to travel down it as far as that lake, but that its character was unknown to them.

We descended this river for 700 miles, often with many misgivings, and with many precious days lost in search of our course, until, on the second of September, we reached the head of Chesterfield Inlet where some of the old explorers of last century, in search of a north-west passage, had been before us. We had accomplished what we had started out to do, and had surveyed a line through the very middle of the unknown region. Thence we travelled down and surveyed Chesterfield Inlet and the west shore of Hudson Bay as far as Fort Churchill, where we arrived, very much exhausted, on the 16th of October.

On the following spring I was again sent northward to further explore the same region, and this time I was acc-