

horses wandering through this country. Pepin returned at night : no success. Wilson not back.

Thursday, 21st October.—Pepin out again this a.m. ; returned in two hours. Sent him out again to south to work along creek : returned at 4 p.m. ; no success. Wilson not back.

Friday 22nd October.—Some of the horses strayed on back trail : Pepin, Fitzgerald, Lafferty and Tobin went after them. Fitzgerald and Tobin will bring them back and the other two go on to follow trail. Pepin found running north. My opinion is we should have gone north of fallen timber instead of south, but the difficulty is now to get round that way, and knowing nothing of the country there may be more timber down there. Wilson still absent at 9 a.m., and have no idea of the direction in which to look for him and it is unsafe to let any of the party but Pepin go into the bush alone. Will wait to-day and if Wilson has not returned, will take up back trail for about six miles and strike north round down timber until we can strike direct to St. John's ourselves and there send back to look for Wilson.

Saturday, 23rd October.—Johnstone and an Indian came over to camp just as we were starting to go back on trail, they having followed our trail from the ranch. Found trail about 5 miles back in straight line. It took round N. of burnt timber then nearly W. through open country and green bush. Camped on Creek at W. end of bush amongst burnt standing timber. Frank Lafferty "off duty" with bad cut at base of thumb. Wilson had found this trail and started back blazing return trail to camp.

Sunday, 24th October.—Sent Pepin and Indian back to look for Wilson following his blaze and went on ourselves. No trail after first $\frac{1}{2}$ mile and crossed creek at the mouth of another by creek very steep and high banks. Then on W. over burnt fallen timber to "Kis-cab-is-kow" River good approach can be got, but steep high banks. Heavy fallen timber. Fair feed. Slight fall of snow.

Monday, 25th October.—Const. Fitzgerald ill, cramps, and diarrhoea. Too ill to move. Tobin and I crossed river and rode about 6 miles up river W. to find a good trail. All fallen timber which can be got round by going further north.

Tuesday, 26th October.—Three horses missing. Met Baptiste and Indian bringing them from last camp where they had returned during night, hobbles broken. The last trail of Wilson was going towards St. John's from a camp fire, but it could not be followed far. Went out to try and find a way round fallen timber on S. side of river. Found one, but too late to go on. Considerable fall of snow this a.m. until about 11 a.m., when weather cleared and snow soon disappeared.

Wednesday, 27th October.—Packed and ready to start at 9 a.m. when heavy rain began. Tobin very sick, same as Fitzgerald, fainted once ; too weak to be moved. Slept all day. Remained in camp all day, putting horses across river to get better feed. Weather cleared early in afternoon.

Thursday, 28th October.—Left at 9.20 a.m. and kept to S. side of river (Kis-cab-is-kow) which here flows E. and W. After travelling up it for about 5 miles we struck St. John's trail, and at 2 p.m. crossed the above river and camped on W. side. River here flows N. and S. Country generally covered with bush, easy of travel, with occasional pieces of open with fallen timber and brush. About three miles E. of river crossed muskeg about 500 yards with burnt timber. This is now drying up. Tobin still very weak, and as no certainty of water before reaching the "Pine" River, decided to camp for the day. Distance about 11 miles. From not knowing character of country I travelled on the 24th a due west course, whereas to avoid bad country trail was here S.W. Banks of this valley very high and steep (about 200 ft.), but could be made practicable for curts. River about 100 yards wide. Signs that it is deep and swift in spring. Good feed almost anywhere, and water in small creek about half way. Lafferty can do light duty now. Indian guide sick last night, same as Tobin and Fitzgerald, but not so bad. Gave him medicine and better to-day. Distance travelled about 11 miles. From high land approaching E. bank of river we got first view of the Rockies, free from snow. Good feed at camp. About 20 tons hay could be cut half mile up the river.