

expedition, insisted on my taking along a convoy to whom I paid \$6 per day and expenses. He was instructed to accompany me as far as Klukwan, but did not come beyond Gantigastaki village, the limit of tide water. At Haine's I met Messrs Flemmer and Nelson of the United States coast survey. The former was going to the height of land on the Chilkat pass, and the latter to explore the Katzeihin river.

I moved up the east bank of the Chilkat to a point opposite the mouth of the Takhin, where we swam the horses and crossed our outfit in our Peterboro' canoe. I met Dalton, who had just returned from Pleasant camp. He informed me that the snowfall had been very heavy on the summit, and that the season was very late. He had a large force of men at work on the trail, which he expected would be open by June 12. ²⁸

The trail crosses the Takhin about a mile and a half from the mouth, and worins up into the foothills, along which it continues to within three miles of Klukwan, when it descends to the broad fan-shaped moraine at the mouth of the Tisku, river. ⁶ I did not take advantage of this part of the trail, but kept along the river flat, where the feed was excellent.

While at Haine's, I decided to send my canoe, loaded with supplies, over the Chilkoot pass, in charge of two men, to await my arrival at Fort Selkirk, and on June 18, I placed the pack train in charge of J. E. McMullen, my most experienced man, with instructions to move to the 'park' beyond Pleasant camp, and as soon as it was possible, to cross the summit and travel towards the Five-finger rapid. I would hasten to overtake him after I had seen my canoe over Chilkoot pass. I arrived at Dyea on June 22, and made arrangements with the 'Tramway Co.' to transport my outfit to Lake Bennett. The delivery to the summit was prompt, but some days elapsed before all of my supplies reached the lake.

I returned to Haine's on the 27th, and next morning about 10 o'clock, I left Pyramid harbour, in company with Dalton and several others, for Pleasant camp, where we arrived about midnight. It took two and a half days from here to Dalton's post. We passed several large parties of prospectors packing supplies on their backs to Shorty and Alder creeks.

I overtook my pack train on the evening of July 8, about forty miles from the Lewes river. From Hutshi village the trail follows the Nordenskiöld valley and the country presents no difficulties to the building of a wagon road or railway. The soil is largely composed of volcanic ash and the cloud of dust made travelling rather disagreeable. We reached Five-finger rapid on the 13th. From the mouth of the Nordenskiöld the trail passes through a very hilly country, which could be easily avoided. There is no trail on the west side of the Lewes, between Rink rapid and Fort Selkirk, but one could be made at a trifling cost. At the rapid I found a notice that my canoe had passed down some days before. We were delayed some time by strayed horses and the difficulty of securing a suitable boat with which to cross, but on the evening of the 16th, we had our horses and outfit on the opposite bank. Next morning I left McMullen to take the pack train by the trail down to the mouth of Pelly river, and took a small boat for Fort Selkirk, where I arrived about 9 p.m. My two men, in accordance with instructions I had given them when separating on Chilkoot pass, had signals set on the highest points in the neighbourhood. On the 18th, I measured a base on the flat behind the trading post, and connected it with Ogilvie's survey of the North-west Mounted Police reserve. I then started to observe at the different stations. The pack train arrived on the evening of the 20th. On the 21st and 22nd, while I, with one man, was occupying stations, the rest of the party were engaged swimming the horses across the Pelly, crossing the outfit and making a trail through the 'rim rock' to the plateau above. This wall of basalt is about 250 feet high, and extends about two miles up the Pelly, and down the Yukon about the same distance.

On the 23rd we started for Stewart river. Our course was nearly due north. We had to make our own trail, but two men with heavy brush-hooks were able to open up from four to six miles per day. The country between Fort Selkirk and Stewart river, is a succession of high wooded ridges, the general direction of the valleys being east and west. There are few remarkable elevations. The highest point on our trail is 4,150 feet and the highest station occupied, 5,467 feet above the sea. The altitude at the

(Big Salmon)