

hard to define in what it consisted from so few examples from which to judge.

I think it right that I should mention what has been done in this district by Messrs. Wells, Glavo, and Shanz, who followed in my tracks as far as Klokwan, the great Chilcoat village I have alluded to. I had already reached a point some miles above, in the Klahena valley, but knowing of their arrival I returned in order to learn which route they proposed to take towards the unknown country ahead of us. As I had already chosen the Klahena tributary, learning from the Indians that that was the best way to the Altsehk, they, in order that as much fresh ground as possible might be traversed, continued up the main Chilcat river with a large number of Indian packers, crossed the divide and discovered and named a large lake in British territory, Lake Arkell. Here they separated, some of the party constructing a raft and commencing the descent of the Takeena, which flows into the Yukon. I have not yet heard of their return.

The other two, consisting of Mr. Glavo, who was recently in charge of Equatorville Station on the Congo, and Dalton, who was one of the men engaged to accompany us to the Mount Saint Elias in 1886, succeeded in reaching, in company with some Indians who were going in that direction, a branch of the Altsehk other than that which leads from the more direct pass, which I may claim to have discovered. They then descended the river in a canoe with some natives whom they found willing, and reached the coast at Dry Bay, and thence proceeded to Yakutat by way of the lagoons which are found between the mountains and the sea, and returned to civilisation by a chance trading vessel. I recently saw Mr. Glavo in New York, and learned much from him about the Altsehk.

A party of American surveyors also has passed this summer amongst the glaciers in the neighbourhood of Yakutat, and have apparently determined the height of Mount St. Elias as nearer 13,500 than 19,500 feet, which the American Coast Survey had previously made it.

Reaching the head of Yakutat Bay on June 18th, by the 1st of August they were at a point half-way between the bay and St. Elias; on the 21st they had reached the base of St. Elias, probably on the east side, and at three the following morning commenced the ascent. The weather had been fine for the past ten days, but after a few hours, snow began to fall, and continued for thirty hours, and they had to return without having reached the summit. They made another attempt two days later, and again a storm came as suddenly as before.

A glacier which they estimated to measure a thousand square miles, lying at the south base of Mount St. Elias, they named the Piedmont. But I think this must be what the American Coast Survey had already named Malaspina Plateau, the western part of which we named the Great Agassiz Glacier. With regard to the new height of Mount St.