



From a photograph.

THE SUMMIT OF CHILKOOT PASS.

After eight days of very hard work we had secured four hundred and fifty feet of inch lumber; this we carried to a swift little stream and made into a raft, that we might convey it to our camp. Two minutes later the raft was wrecked on a large rock, and we were all immersed in the ice-cold water. We managed to save the precious lumber, and from it, four days later, we had constructed two boats.

These boats were eighteen feet long, flat-bottomed, sharp at one end, and three feet broad in the middle, with a depth of two and a half feet. They were strongly made, but inclined to leak freely, as we

afterwards discovered. The oars were hewn out of small trees with the axe; each boat was fitted with a mast having a small wooden pulley wheel at the top, by which a square sail could be lowered or raised. One sail was made from a canvas wagon-cover; the other from old pieces of bagging.

On the 13th of June, during a snow-storm, our party started on its journey of more than six hundred miles down the river to the gold fields. None of us had ever been in a boat where a sail was used, and these mountain lakes are frequently very rough. On our first night out we



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A SHORT PORTAGE.