

where I could trace his progress by the loud crackling of the branches as he forced his way along. For more than a mile we were obliged to creep along the edge of the stream, under steep clay banks, from which pieces were continually dropping. Then we emerged into a district where the bushes grew more thinly. I saw large blocks of pure white marble scattered about, some of large dimensions, mixed with marble of various colours, finally camping near Marble Glacier. On the 26th I ascended alone as far as snow-line on one of the mountains at the foot of the Klaheena-Altsehk Pass, and obtained a view of some distant ranges entirely covered with snow, and without any rock showing, and bare of timber. The bases were not visible. About five miles above my tenth camp the valley divides, the left or western branch leading to the pass. At this point the country is more open and progress easier. I counted eight glaciers in valleys opening into the Wellesley or Klaheena on the right bank, but none on the left. The distance from our camp to the mouth of the Chilcat river was about 60 miles.

A few days later a white man, to my surprise, who had recrossed the pass alone, suddenly arrived in my camp. He said his name was Meehan, and that with two Norwegians he had crossed the pass in February, having been over it previously, and that dragging their food on sledges, they had descended the Altsehk to a point where a large river, called Kla-tsa-kult, came in from the westward. Mr. Glave also noted this large river, which will probably be the route followed by future explorers.

They had found no indications of gold, and had abandoned most of their baggage and provisions, as the disappearance of the snow had made it necessary to "pack" their things instead of using sledges on the return journey. He had outstripped the others who had heavier packs. I took him with me to the coast. Of his two companions one was drowned in the Klaheena a few days later, at a spot where we ourselves experienced great difficulty both in ascending and descending. Later on I saw the survivor. From these two men I learnt that just over the pass there are some houses used by the Chilcat Indians as stores for their trade with the tribes of the interior. The Chilcats and Chilcoots will not allow these inland tribes to approach the coast with their furs, but insist on acting as middlemen between them and the white traders. This was the reason they wished to assure themselves whether or not I had come to trade with these inland tribes. I might further illustrate this by referring to the difficulty Mr. Ogilvie experienced in persuading these inland, or Tagish Indians, to commence the transport of his effects from the point where the coast Indians had deposited them, as it was yet in the country where the latter claim exclusive rights. They seem no better than slaves to the Chilcoots, and are afraid of offending them. Many of the Chilcoot and Chilcat Indians have Tagish wives, some of whom I saw, and remarked a distinct difference of type, though it was

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