

GLENN DIARY

[upside down on frontispiece]

Marv

B 14 22 22 - 9 3, 14, 21

L 0 7 - 20 - 21 - 22, 29 - 42

G 1 2 3, 17 - 18 - 10 - 3 - 5 x

B - 7 6 5 7 0 8. 0, 12

L - 11 - 12 23, 25, 37 - 45, 50, 42

G - 11 - 3 - 5 - 6

[facing frontispiece]

1 Captn Glenn 1
2 Mendenhall 2
/ Bagg
3 Colonel 3
/ Lee
/ Sergt Mathys
/ Ayers
/ Dillinger
/ Naquita
4 Stephan 5
5 Vanschoonhoven 14
6 Canwell 4
7 Blitz 6
8 Marv
9 Lachance
10 Woodworth

7 Lieut Castner
8 Hicks
9 Indian
10 Corpl Young
11 McGregor
12 Kelly
13 Dillon

[upside down facing frontispiece]

+ Lee [?] 0 /
+ Castner -
1+ Hicks 0 /
+ Mendenhall 0 /
2+ Colonel 0 /
3+ McGregor -
4+ Canwell 0 /
5+ Vanschovehoven /
+ Marv /
Billy / 0 /
+ Stephan /
Kelly / /
Corporal Young / /
Blitch /
Dillon / 0 /

Capt. G
Hicks
Mendenhall
Colonel
Canwell
Vanschoonhoven

Castner
McGregor
Blitch

[perpendicular near the fold: Jeremiah O'Toole.]

Corpl Young
Marv
Billy
Stephan
Kelly
Dillon

Edwin F. Glenn.

[pg 1]

This book was commenced on July 29th 1898 on the east bank of King Creek Alaska and what is written herein previous to that date is from memory and the assistance of other memoranda of members of the party - The regular record was lost in King's Creek under circumstances to be narrated herein under the proper date.

Ladd's Station, June 29th 1898

[pg 2] Ladd's Station June 30th 1898

[pg 3] Ladd's Station July 1st 1898

[pg 4] Ladd's Station, July 2nd 1898

[pg 5] Ladd's Station July 3rd 1898

[pg 6] Knik Station July 4th 1898

[pg 7] Fishing Village, Knik Station July 5th 1898

[pg 8] Melishis Cabin July 6th 1898

[pg 9] Melishis Cabin July 7th 1898

[pg 10] Melishis Cabin July 8th 1898

[pg 11] Melishis Cabin July 9th 1898

[pg 12] Mouth Knik Inlet July 10th 1898

[pg 13] Ladd's Station July 11th

[pg 14] Ladd's Station July 12th 1898

[pg 15] Ladd's Station July 13th 1898

[pg 16] Ladd's Station July 14th 1898

[pg 17] Ladd's Station July 15th 1898

[pg 18] Ladd's Station July 16th 1898

[pg 19]

Ladd's Station July 17th 1898

The Steamer Perry arrived about noon (2.30 P.m.) when we immediately commenced to load what rations we would need, as I felt assured we would get the needed stock from a conversation with Lathrop on his down trip. We then pulled down to Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] to await the turn of the

tide. About 10.30 P.m. we steamed up towards Sunrise. Found an exceedingly bright & intelligent looking indian woman on board from Kodiak but who is now living in Sunrise running a laundry. Striking because dressed in the height of fashion.

[pg 20] Sunrise City July 18th 1898

[pg 21] Sunrise City July 19th 1898

[pg 22] Sunrise City July 20th 1898

[pg 23]

Knik Station July 21st 1898

Arrived at Knik village early in the morning took a small boat and pulled up to Palmers whom I took on board to meet the Perry & pilot her up to a landing above the station. Just as we reached her the pilot turned too abruptly and ran aground on the sand bar. Every effort to get her off proved useless & it became necessary to unload the stock on this bar. We finally did so & got them across the intervening channel to dry land on the beach. When I saw them start across this sand flat I never expected to get them all across with safety but good luck was with us & we managed to save all.

Grass being good we let them graze for some time in the mean time we unloaded some of our freight into Palmer's boat and the balance that we could pack ashore we packed on the animals & sent all up to Melishis Cabin where they arrived about 2 o'clock A.m. having had great trouble in unloading & repacking. In the mean time I spent the night at Palmers - got only about 2 hours of sleep - & went down to the indian village to get an indian to guide me over the pass to the Talquitno & if practicable one to take me to the Copper river. I succeeded in getting one known as "Big Stephan" to say that he would go with me in spite of the fact that his baby was sick. He was to join me at Melishis on the following morning. This required considerable work & some pressure from Palmer & enlistment of any one was out of the question.

[pg 24] July 22nd - 1898 - Melishis Cabin

[pg 25] 1st Camp from Melishis Cabin (11 miles) July 23rd 1898

[pg 26] 1st Camp July 24th 1898

[pg 27] 2nd Camp. Beaver Creek (12 miles) July 25th 1898

Total distance 23 miles

[pg 28] 3rd Camp (Moose Creek) 10 miles. July 26th 98

Total distance 33 "

[pg 29] 4th Camp. Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] Camp (12 miles) July 27th 1898

" 45 "

[pg 30]

Young's Creek.

5th Camp. King Creek (6 miles) July 28th 1898

Total distance " 51 "

Broke Camp at 2 P.m. and travelled 6 miles to above creek. Camped on a gravel bar - Met some prospectors in camp at King's Cabin (Monroe party) for whom I had some mail they were glad to get. They informed me that the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] was very high & not fordable at our crossing. They were very anxious to buy some stock. Further up the trail met some other prospectors. One of them a Swede who understood no English. They had crossed the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] 3 miles above on a log they had felled. (The next morning Mr. Johnson, the head of this party, came to my camp to purchase some stock). The trail led through spruce along Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] for 1st 3 miles & was good walking from there it turned up King creek where it was fair walking & the trees principally cottonwood. Found a cache of my advance party principally of private material of members of the party, but one can of butter which was much appreciated with some hot cakes Blixt made for supper.

[pg 31]

6th camp. King Creek (4 miles) July 29th 1898

Total distance " 55 "

Left Camp No 5 at Young's Creek (Cynthslia danky [?]) at 10.50 A.m. while it was still raining but the sun came out at intervals indicating that we would likely have a clear day or rather afternoon. Found the woods very dense and the atmosphere not sufficient for breathing it was very tiresome walking besides being wet.

In an hour and 3/4's we arrived at the crossing of Moose Creek where we anticipated no trouble in crossing. I had just crossed half way over the stream (1st foot log to the bar when I looked up stream to find the bell mare had fallen down with Private Canwell and was making but little effort to get up. The next I saw of her she had rolled completely over. Private C. endeavored to keep her up, but she soon struck the rapids and from there down it was an impossibility to do anything for her. Although this rapids was not deep the water was so swift that for man or beast to keep on his feet was an impossibility. Both C & the mare struck the foot logs & knocked them out of place. In the mean time the mules started after the bell mare but had the good luck to keep their packs right side up & to get ashore. Private C got out with assistance while the mare continued to roll over & over getting more & more exhausted with each turn over. Once more I had slight hopes of her getting out but she failed shortly after disappearing from sight around the bend. In the mean time the men kept following down the bank. In a short time they returned with the mare minus her pack and looking pretty seedy - Lost in pack. Personal - 1. sweater 1. pr indian tarbesos, 1. tripod for camera

[pg 32] and my notebook containing my notes since the 28th ultimo which is a most serious loss because it is irreparable as it contains information that was considered valuable at the time & has since been forgotten because presumed to be safe. In the mean the horse train came up & I sent one reliable horse over. He made it safely so I decided to bring the others over. All the horse train made it nicely so I had the mule train driven it - it was necessary to tail the bell mare to get her across but she made & so did all the mules save one that went down the rapids landing on the other side safely but was finally brought across safely the pack being in fairly good shape although it had been under water. Official loss was two sacks of beans - very serious - and two panniers (Kyaks). The bell mare badly skinned up. The conduct of Private Canwell was most commendable and the services of packer Lee very valuable indeed in crossing the stream. Two prospectors came along and I put them across on horse back it being arranged that they would remain on that side until I could cut some logs and build a new footpath which they did.

Some idea can be formed of the velocity of the current from the statement that two men who saw my notebook start down stream ran after it as fast as they could only to find that it constantly gained on

them.

As most of the men were wet and all of their things I decided to camp on the bank taking advantage of the warm sunshine to dry everything as much as possible.

After some hot soup and tea all hands felt

[pg 33] much refreshed and everything was promptly spread out to dry. An examination of the photo package showed that they were still dry, but the warm sun did them no harm.

Just across the creek from camp is quite a large mountain, principally rock on the face of which are very large places worn smooth by glacial action and directly on top were seen two very large black bear roaming around in plain view as long as we looked at them.

Distance travelled four miles through cotton wood principally altho there was some spruce and a little birch, but little grass was found on the trail and none directly in camp although an abundance within half a mile on the 1st bluff.

[pg. 34]

Distance travelled 13 miles

Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] Creek July 30th 1898 68 "

Broke camp on King Creek at 10 A.m. Climbed the hill that needed considerable cutting on the trail and arrived at Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] Creek at 5.30 P.m. Distance travelled (13) thirteen miles (prospectors call it 15). Weather clear until night when it rained slightly. In travelling across we struck a lake about 4 miles from camp. About 2 miles further was Marshall Creek (). About 1/2 mile further another lake. The indians say these lakes empty into Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] and not into Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon]. About two miles further on struck a nice stream () and from there in about 1½ miles travel we struck the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon], up this 3 miles to the crossing. This creek had been very high but was falling when we struck it and continued to do so all night.

This march was the most fatiguing of any up to that point and I was especially fatigued as I had personally cut considerable trail - The portion that passes the 1st lake could be considerably improved by keeping further out from the lake shore.

Private Canwell was able to walk all day and did not complain altho badly bruised and shaken up by striking boulders in King Creek. The small grey mule did not show up with the herd. He was loaded with bacon which makes us short. Packer Lee was out all night after him but did not find him.

[pg. 35]

Distance travelled [sic], 1 mile

Boulder Creek. July 31st 1898, " " 69 "

This morning at 6 A.m. Lee returned without the grey mule. As he rode the bell after it I did not dare turn the stock loose but kept them tied up and a guard on all night. I was glad to note a fall of from 6 to 8 inches in the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon]. As soon as practicable after breakfast I had Lee try a crossing near the bluff below (½ mile) Lieut Castner's crossing & found it safer and better than his. Shortly after noon, everything being packed crossed the creek & came out at the mouth of Boulder Creek, which we crossed and found the best camp thus far on the trail. Splendid grass within 300 yds of camp on the hillside. Everything in fact to make camp attractive. Distance travelled one (1) mile but decided to camp so as to give stock grass, to get bacon on the lost mule if practicable, and to make sure that each party had everything it required. Tried to catch some trout but only got three by hard work (all rainbow).

Weather cloudy with an occasional sprinkle. Sent my bath tub & rubber mattress back to the cabin and am glad as I did not need them and the latter was quite bulky & heavy making my bedding roll

unwieldy. Found colors in the gravel at both the last camps and also in Boulder which I find is already staked off & notices of claims stuck up in present camp. Mosquitoes are the worst we have had on the trail. Left Sergt Mathys with 10 animals 8 or 9 of which will go back to camp at Melishis will go from there to meet Lieut Learnard on the Talquitno. Consumed good part of the day in dividing our supplies. Glad the grey mule was found as we need the bacon.

[pg 36] 9th camp - Summit Beyond Boulder Creek. Aug. 1st 1898.

Awoke on Boulder creek at 5.30 A.m. & called the "Colonel" to catch up his stock breakfasted at seven and started at 10 to climb the mountain. When near the summit I met Mr Monroe & his partner, going down to the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon]. We came up to this summit (4 miles) in a little more than two hours. Mr Monroe informed me that Kelly was in camp about 3 miles ahead, and that Lieut Castner 1½ miles further on. Everything being good shape and the trail fairly good we arrived in Kelly's camp in 45 minutes to find him absent but nearly an entire sheep hanging up. We decided to lunch while we waited his return. Having finished our lunch and he not being yet in rather than keep the stock without food went into camp. The location is fine for a good view of the surrounding country but the clouds laid low (practically on our level all day) and in the evening & during the night we had some rain. Elevation 2450' of which 1350 was made in reaching the summit. Kelly returned after we got into camp and informed us that good grass (short bunch) could be found half mile ahead. Sent the stock there and they soon filled up and laid down to rest.

Found Castner left on the 25th without any word for me. Some of the finest grass on the rise to the summit that I have ever seen.

Distance travelled 5 miles: Total 74

[pg 37] 10th Camp. August 2, 98.

Awoke at 5 A.m. to find Kelly in front of a fire roasting some meat. He told me that the packers were out after stock. Took another nap until 6.30 when I got up for breakfast. Soon afterwards packers returned with the bell mare & mule train. The fog was so dense they could not find others but after breakfast all hands turned out & in 15 minutes Kelly reported having found them they had not wandered but were in the thick brush. When found it was so late decided to lunch before starting. We were packed & started at 1.45 P.m. The 1st two miles was thru deep moss with no trail which was the most fatiguing trail we have had. We went up and across a hog back and then up a rather wide ravine to a divide where the waters flowed toward Cañon Creek. We then followed down this some distance and then followed close up to the foot hills until we arrived in camp on a small creek. Distance travelled 7 miles. Weather fair and quite warm after the fog raised (about 10 A.m). The view towards Knik Inlet from the top of the divide was simply superb and one of the best pictures we have seen unfortunately the sun was directly north of the Camera and low. Nestling in the mountains to the left across the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] were glaciers galore, further down the mountain sides were very many immense masses of red flowers. In the tops of the high mountains in front were three beautiful lakes, with Boulder Creek Cañon in the distance. Quite a quantity of bunch grass along the trail and considerable red top as high as one's shoulders. Stock filled up freely during the night on red top.

[pg 38] 11th Camp. Cañon Camp (in a deep gulch) August 3rd 1898

Awoke at 6 A.m. & called the packer to get the stock and Blitz for breakfast which was called at 7.30 when stock was saddled. Broke camp at 10 A.m. Weather clear but not much sky visible. Mosquitoes had been a pest during the night but disappeared in the morning with the fire. Too blue

& hazy for a photo of Cañon towards Knik. More's the pity. - Last evening The "Colonel" said that Mr Mills of Sunrise was his authority for statement that it got so cold here in winter that when a pot of water was set by the side of a fire it boiled on one side and froze on the other. He also said that during the march on yesterday "General Weyler" (one of our pack mules) sat down on a log and watched his partner cross a bog before he would tackle it.

The trail passed over a great deal of Marsh, and considerable moss which The "Colonel" says the stock cannot pass over after it freezes as it becomes too slippery to stand up on, passed through plenty of grass but no so much as on the trip up. Had considerable trouble in climbing the mountain (about 1300 feet) and then down again. Passed two of Lieut Castner's camps but he is still 6 days ahead of me. Every one was so tired when we reached camp that we ate the last of our pea soup that is or was excellent for such a trip readily & easily prepared convenient shape to carry & very nourishing. Lost our yeast powder on the trail. The last two miles is not a practicable trail for stock. Distance travelled 10 miles

[pg 39] 12th Camp. August 4th, 98. Weather fair

On hill side beyond Cañon gulch.

Although the most unforbidding camp thus far (being in an narrow canon with abrupt sides) we managed to fill in between & over the rocks so that we slept well. Awoke at 5.30. called the camp. Then took a bath in the stream which was very cold indeed but I feel better. Thus far had only bathed my feet. Did not attempt to change underwear but must do so in a few days. Stephan found the baking powder. The stock found good grass but look rather peaked this morning. We have some mountain climbing before us today which all hands are afraid of or at least do not like. Passed over this without much trouble. Only one pack fell off near the top of the rise. Trail then went down to Canon Creek and up the bed of this to its head (directly in the bed for 3 miles), a distance of about five miles. From the lakes at the head we follow another Tributary of the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] for about 1½ miles then turn to the North more. Weather clear & just crisp enough to travel comfortably. Distance travelled 11 miles - Total distance 102 miles from Melishis Cabin. Trail not practicable but can be made so. Have been above timber all day and at Cañon Creek passed out of Moose Country and into Caribou Country. Saw plenty of signs (tracks) of the latter in Cañon Creek. These are the same shape & size as the reindeer and are unquestionably the same animal. Mendenhall got one but too far to shoot at. The reindeer moss abounds in country traversed today. Stephan was very much upset when Hicks left trail to Copper & struck more to the North & Said he would have to come back. I hope not. In the evening after camping we saw a fire on a knoll about 100 yds in advance evidently lighted by Castner. Travelling through moss very disagreeable & fatiguing.

[pg 40]

Distance travelled - 10 miles

13th Camp.

Total distance - 112 miles

Near Summit of creek

Weather - Raining all day

August 5th 98.

It rained during the night. Awoke at 6 A.m. called the cook. found Kelly had gone in advance to hunt as per agreement. Everyone passed an uncomfortable night as the moss is all under laid with water. Fire wood used was spruce. I fear that Castner has departed from orders & has gone too far for me to overtake him, certainly unless he experiences trouble in getting along, or in making a trail. Country is very mountainous, our present elevation being about 3200'. Trail of Lt Castner came down mountain to creek about 1½ miles up this creek ¾ of a mile. Then up a mountain about 600' then

down to another creek (this was necessary to avoid canon at mouth) then down to creek and up it to camp - Elevation at Camp near summit - 3950'. Trail not practicable without bridging & considerable work. Grass on trail in places & in camp enough for stock but is a bunch grass & grows rather scattering. Wood used was dead willows & consequently we ate flapjacks for both meals. Snow fell on the Summit within 300 yds of us, and we found it chilly during the night. The moss on the first hill seemed to be under laid with ice on the hillsides and it is certain to be hard travelling on our return unless the moss itself will hold the stock

[pg 41] 14th Camp. Over Summit
On Copper river waters.

Distance travelled = 9
Total distance = 121
Weather = showery

Aug 6th 98

Broke camp at 10 A.m. Took the first right hand fork of the creek & followed it up to its source - had great trouble in getting up the hill followed by Lieut C. Then crossed the Divide into another creek which we followed a short distance (½ mile) then across a high divide into a small creek at the head of which found drift coal of good quality - Vein must be near the summit as coal was near the head - Camped on this stream about two miles from where we 1st crossed it. Found plenty of moss (reindeer) of good quality also quantity of caribou tracks - These waters flow into Copper river thru the Tezlina [i.e. Tazlina] river. We are now 4 sleeps from the lakes for which we are steering. Stephan says four days to Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] (about 16 to 20 miles) and four days to lakes. Plenty of grass wood & water. Caught a trout & white fish (?) in creek indicating no great falls in stream. (10 sleeps to Copper river). Castner missed trail at short distance from his camp on the Summit at Boulder Creek (so Stephan says). We are evidently through the Coast range and the temperature is higher. Stock doing well but are falling off & we have some sore backs. Country traversed not suitable for trail and is evidently not the trail. Mendenhall's happy as he has found some fossils. Castner will certainly kill all his stock at his present rate of travel

[pg 42] 15th Camp
Aug 7th 1898

Distance travelled - 10 miles
Total Distance - 131 "
Weather - cloudy & showering

Broke Camp at 11 A.m. travelled down Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek] (Taiklano) [i.e. Little Nelchina River], & crossed the Taikano [sic (i.e. Little Nelchina River)] Creek just below which we met Corp'l Young & Hicks with a letter from Castner who had been to the lakes, secured an indian to pack for four days & proceeded to the Northward. I find Lieut. C. is laboring under the impression still that the principle object of the expedition is to get to the Yukon. Found the Taiklano [i.e. Little Nelchina River] & tributaries full of trout & grayling but both are wary of rising to a fly. Put on a caterpillar & caught one grayling. Trail follows directly down the creek & is not practicable. Went into Camp where we met Hicks & Young, as they were tired and I desired to take both with me. Sent out for some caribou but found none, we need it as bacon is disappearing rapidly, too much so. Good bunch grass at Camp but it is scattered. Used dead willows for fire wood. No news from indians of Capt Abercrombie's party altho they spoke of a party of seven (one being a chief with fine clothes) coming up the Tezlina [i.e. Tazlina] & who should reach the lakes by tomorrow the 8th. This stream we are following down runs into these lakes & they form the head of the Tezlina [i.e. Tazlina]. Had some trouble with my feet yesterday, principally from their being wet on account of wading above shoe tops. Unfortunately the shoes do not leak. Hicks reports good grass & wood at tomorrow's Camp (9 miles distant). Decided to give men a full nights rest. Found some mosquitoes not thick but

enough to annoy

[pg 43] 16th Camp. Aug 8th 98. Distance travelled - 10 miles
Total distance - 141 miles
Weather - clear.

Broke Camp at 1. o'clock. Had utilized the forenoon to rest & air bedding, tents etc. Hicks, Stephan, Mendenhall, Canwell & Kelly went hunting to meet me at Camp tonight. The Stream coming in from the North not being named by Lt Castner I decided to call it the indian name (Taikano [i.e. Taiklano (i.e. Little Nelchina River)]). It is the main stream and carries the most water. It is the stream we left day before yesterday to cross divide over to the creek called Sladen Creek and from it down The Taiklano [i.e. Little Nelchina River] or Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek]. Dread today's march on account of wading of which there is much in front of us. Found the stream was literally waded all the time and the travelling correspondingly hard. No game was brought into Camp altho the indian got a shot at a Caribou at close range. My intention in going down was to go into Camp on or near the point where the indian trail spoken of by Stephan strikes the Taiklano [i.e. Little Nelchina River] (Bubb river) [i.e. Bubb Creek]. It is of course useless to try to catch Castner so will strike out on my own trail proceeding slowly so as to examine as much country as practicable. I find Hicks & Corpl Young a great addition to my party and both look better after a good nights rest & removal of their packs. Found a good Camp in a cotton wood grove on the river bank, where I decided to cash some rations and also some other supplies. This will lighten up so that stock will stand the trip better. Got into camp about 6 P.m. Every one tired out.

[pg 44] 16th Camp. Aug 9th Distance travelled = 0 miles
Total distance = 141 "
Weather = clear

Decided to remain in camp so that men could repair their shoes & wash their clothes. Made a cash of 300# flour, 60# sugar, 3 sks roasted coffee, 2 cans lard, 1 sk salt, 1 pick, 2 axe helvies, 6 doz plates 5x7, & 10 doz 4'x5', 1 sk matches & toilet paper, 1 sk - private of Castner's, 1 of Mendenhall's, & 1 of my own. Around the plates is wrapped a shelter half, 1 blanket woolen and 1 developing room of black canton flannel, and in this same package is 1 box containing 32 negatives (films 4'x5') and 1 box negatives (15 plates 5x7). These films & plates were developed by Mendenhall & self during the day, under great disadvantage as we had to manufacture developing trays out of canvas. Every one was busy all day. The stock had to stray away on the back trail of course so that the "Colonel" did not return until after midnight with them. This was our 1st introduction to the white legged fly (we had him in conjunction with mosquitoes & gnats) and while small he is numerous. He does not bite men very hard but flies into one's eyes, nose, ears & mouth until almost distracted. Fortunately the nights are chilly & the mosquitoes are harmless. The flies & gnats do not bother after 8 or 9 P.m. Caught some more grayling during the day but they were small. They are evidently spawning.

[pg 45] 17th Camp, Aug 10th - Distance travelled = 8½
Total Distance = 150½
Weather = clear but cloudy after arrival in camp

The drying of the films & plates delayed fixing up the cash so that we did not start from camp until 10 A.m. I think with present arrangement we should break camp in an hour after commencing to pack. Hicks managed to keep ahead with his finding of trail until 3 P.m. and the country traversed will make a very passable trail. Mt Wrangell has been in sight since about 11.30 A.m. & is still in sight in our Camp which I call "Lake view" on account of the numerous lakes in sight. The "large"

lake for which we are steering and which is evidently the head of the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] river is distant about 20 miles but is in plain view. The lake to which Castner went with so much trouble is about 7 miles to our right. A striking fact in connection with the "large" lake is the fact that the indians who live on it go to Knik to trade instead of going down the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] river. Mendenhall made a proposition to me this A.m. which I gladly accepted, and which was that he would take the plain table and run the lines if I would give him a man to assist him to carry his Camera etc. This is an excellent arrangement for me as it relieves me of a job I have neither time, inclination or preparation to attend to.

The trail ran down the river for about 2 miles

[pg 46] then struck to the North East and ran in almost a straight line in that direction. If we do not strike any bad travelling we should reach the large lake in 1½ days travel.

Found no real soft travelling aside from the moss which is soft & spongy making it tiresome to travel.

Found blueberries (Whortleberries & Moss berries) in abundance had a quantity of the former gathered & cooked for supper. They are the largest I have ever seen and some of them of peculiar shape being elongated. A plate full of them uncooked with sugar made a most palatable dish

The water of the lake was snow water with a contracted outlet & was good save for the vegetable stain in it. The wood was good dry spruce The entire country we have travelled today has been burned over - I'm told many years since - and quantities of spruce dead & very tough is still standing. The grass is very good indeed The flies are a terrific pest on the stock.

[pg 47] 18th Camp, Aug 11th 1898.

Distance travelled = 10

Total distance = 160½ at Twin Lakes.

Weather - Clear & smokey. A.m.

" " P.m.

Broke camp at 8.25 A.m. the camp being called at 5.30 A.m. & breakfast served at 6.10 A.m. The trail leads to the N.E. directly for the right of the large lake at the head of the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna]. The trail was on high ground & good going for the 1st 8 miles and practicable all the distance travelled. Had to cross three marshy places through which streams (outlets for the numerous lakes passed) flowed that promised to give trouble but our stock passed over them easily and with but little delay. Found good grass as well as wood and water so went into Camp. Kept the stock tied up on account of flies & mosquitoes for some time. Built smudge fires around them & gave them salt. In this way they managed to get some rest. The smudges came near giving us serious trouble as the dead spruce trees caught fire and so did the grass which latter was by good luck green enough to prevent quick spreading or running & we finally controlled it. Did not get a view of Wrangle [i.e. Wrangell] Today. We must be on the Divide between the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] and the Copper River as we are passing all streams at their heads and we passed two, evidently flowing toward the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna]. If we can follow this divide we should get through in good shape. Saw plenty of Trout. The day was intensely hot and the rough travelling made travelling very disagreeable. The camp is situated between two lakes (called by Kelly "Twin Lakes") at the lower end of which in the outlet we found plenty of trout but caught none. Was very tired when we went into Camp.

Lakewater is not very good.

[pg 48] 19th Camp. Aug 12th 98

Distance = 7

Total Distance = 167½

Weather - clear & warm a.m.

" " P.m.

cool breeze at night

Broke camp at 9 a.m. Called the Camp at 6 a.m. & awoke to find a 1st class blister on my left foot. Bathed them in cold water and placed cotton around the blister to keep it from rubbing. Hope the travelling will not be rough. Weather promises to be very hot. Foot continued to bother me & is the same at same spot that the bell mare stepped on it. At 12.10 P.m. we struck the large lake which our indian says is the head of the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] river There I put on Mendenhall's seal Moccasins [sic] which relieved my foot very much. This lake is the handsomest I have seen in Alaska. It is very long & narrow filled with a large number of Islands on which is green foliage - a relief after the burnt district we have been passing through the last few days. Took two snaps at this lake that I decided to call Lake "Davis" after Senator C.K. Davis of Minnesota. This lake is evidently full of fish and large enough to float boats of light draft. Have seen but few ducks & geese. The trail passed over good country being the divide & we had trouble at but one place with the stock. This was bridged with brush but one mule was crowded off of it by the others & went down. The delay amounted to only 30 minutes. Camped on this lake so as to get some views of it. The three peaks in the Wrangle [i.e. Wrangell] group were visible & I tried a shot at them with the Ray Filter. Elevation of Lake Davis 2200'. Small flies & gnats a terrific pest playing havoc with the horses ears, delaying one at all sorts of work requiring him to sit down or stand still. Plenty of grass, water & wood

[pg 49] 20th Camp. Aug 13th 1898.
between two small lakes on a hill side
with cotton wood, birch & spruce

Distance travelled, 12½ miles

Total Distance = 180 "

Weather - clear & bright a.m.

shower at 7. P.m.

Broke Camp at 8.45 a.m. Awoke to find my foot in fair condition but will wear the moccasins [sic]. The only salvation from the flies & gnats is the rest at night. The cold kills them. It felt like frost last night. Mendenhall thinks we are going too slow so will try to make a good march today so as to give him enough to do for one day at least.

Trail, as usual, passed through or between lakes of which Mendenhall has noted 74. up to date. Still in the burned district. Went into camp because Stephan said no more water for 3 miles. Found a nice camp in cotton wood grove on a knoll with plenty of grass & wood. The water in the lake, which was deep & with no apparent outlet, was the best we have had of lake water. Hope to strike a running stream today. Struck Castner's trail followed it a short distance then left it to our left. We crossed a similar trail about three miles further on which I do not believe was his although about the same number of animals made the trail. Both trails make more to the North than we go. We see practically no game in the country which is strange, and no indians altho' we find some hunting camps. They are now through fishing & have gone hunting. Passed two creeks, one quite a good size evidently flowing towards Copper river. The men are getting hard up for foot wear, & are trying canvas using one of the pack covers. The small brush (burnt trees) are injuring the packs Spoiled my tent but fortunately I had an extra set to fall back on.

[pg 50] 21st Camp Aug 14th 1898.

Distance travelled 13 miles

Total distance 193 "

Weather - cloudy a.m. & all day

rained in the evening

Broke Camp at 9.25 a.m., two hours after the blaze cutters. Glad to note my blister is better & hope to resume my shoes tomorrow. We should get out of burnt district today or tomorrow & strike running water. My blister is better & shall try shoes tomorrow since the Moccasins [sic] pinch my feet. The trail continues to wind between a network of lakes of which we have passed over 100. At 3. P.m. we came in sight of two very large lakes to the Eastward & about 10 miles distant. They (one of them) must be Lake Plaveznie [i.e. Tazlina] & if so the Northern tributary flowing into it furnishes a pass to the Tanana. The travelling was heavy & disagreeable being through Moss & the uneven burned district the only timber being burned spruce & some willows. brush was also plentiful & disagreeable to cross besides tearing one's clothes. The fires of the Camp burned the adjacent ground like a peat bog. The burned spruce is as tough as it is possible to conceive. We are much nearer Mt Drum & the Wrangel [i.e. Wrangell] group generally. We pass no streams of any size. Grass is not so plentiful but the stock found enough to fill up on. We killed five duck and a pheasant. The indian dog showed up as a retriever to the surprise of every one. Found blueberries in great abundance & every one enjoyed them. Never saw such large ones some of them shaped like a watermelon (oval).

[pg 51] 22nd Camp Aug 15th 1898.

Distance travelled 11. miles

Total distance 204 "

Weather - cloudy a.m.

rained in the evening

When the Camp was called at 6 a.m. it was so foggy that it was useless to attempt to travel. We had a stew of the game in rice that was simply fine. The fog raised about 9 a.m. when the guides started out. I loaded some plates using the tripod with blankets spread over it altho' cramped it was 1st class for the business as I could use the lantern.

The trail passed through the burned district for 2 or 3 miles and then into spruce timber. Generally speaking the travelling was better than the day before passing through reindeer moss all the time. This moss abounds all through this section of Alaska. In Boulder creek Camp Hicks & Kelly made some bread with flour & this moss in the proportion of about 2/3 to 1/3 and found it very palatable. Having heard of it from some Norgwegians [sic]. It does not taste badly eaten raw tasting somewhat like mushrooms. Towards the last the trail passed through some cotton wood with fine travelling but soon passed out of it and into some swamp which seemed to be several miles in extent to Hicks who had climbed a tree to look ahead so went into Camp, near a small lake which are always at hand and near the shores of which we can find reasonably solid ground covered with moss. Mendenhall killed some ducks that tasted well for breakfast. Every one tired & cross when Camp was reached. My feet seemed to stand it fairly well & I hope for no more blisters. Have decided to put Marv in the Cook house soon as Blitch is too cross and quarrelsome. Grass very poor altho the Col. found some red top.

[pg 52] 23rd Camp. Aug 16th 98

River "B" cotton wood grove

Distance travelled 2 miles

Total Distance 206 "

Weather - Clear a.m. with cool south breeze

Commenced to rain at noon & continued all night

Camp called at usual time. Advance party with Stephan added started out at 6.45 a.m. Will give them about 3 hours start so that they can select trail through the swamp & keep ahead. One of the mules (Barney's Mate) reported sick this morning & think he must have eaten something that

disagreed with him. Have ordered light packs on all the mules especially on him as he seems to have eaten nothing. Have to abandon my overalls today as they are gone. My others are lined & I may have to take it out.

If we can get out of this Marsh readily all hands will feel better. Broke Camp at 9.45 a.m. Marched about a mile to find we had missed the signal to turn out so had to come back. Soon saw the foothills and shortly before noon struck a splendid flowing stream (river "B") which we followed up a short distance & then forded to find advance party drying before the fire. Went into camp in a cotton wood grove, spent afternoon in washing our clothing. It was impracticable to travel intelligently on @ of the rain and then too the feed was excellent (red top) and one mule was sick. Am afraid the bell mare will play out on us as she does not & will not "rustle" for food, which keeps 2 or 3 mules from doing so. For the 1st time in my life I tackled my "weeks washing" and made more of a success than I thought possible. Drying it in the smoke of a fire with a heavy rain is no joke however.

I must be getting into condition as I am feeling better after my days march. Sent Stephan & Blitch out hunting but they saw no game.

[pg 53] 24th Camp. Aug 17th 98.

Distance travelled 9 miles

Total Distance 215 "

Weather - Cloudy a.m.

Advance party started at 7.15 a.m. added Blitch to it having put Man in the kitchen yesterday. Broke Camp at 10.00 a.m. starting down the river for a short distance anyway. The trail soon left the river down which we started and from that time on passed through a continuous swamp and mossy Travelling. Even on the high foothill we crossed the moss was deep and water was standing in the holes although the inclination was not less than 45°. A great deal of this grass was called by Corpl Young "Waltzing grass" and grows in tufts that stick above the water about a foot or more & when one steps on it it twists & turns under him causing him to lose his balance half the time. A great part of the time one foot was in a hole up to & above the knee. Once I went in to my hips with the other foot perched in the air. - We struck a trail that white men had travelled about 5. P.m. & soon after went into camp on a small creek. The 3rd we had found on our trail of yesterday. Both men & animals were exhausted. One mule completely played out & another nearly so. We passed through spruce, small willows, some cotton wood & birch. The two last in spots only. We are now N of W of the most Northerly of the Wrangell group. All the water including that in the rivers since leaving Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek] has been yellow - moss stained-. Ran into some granite boulders on the hill side & camped on a ledge of same which broken into showed mica in layers. Killed two young swan but got only one which was large enough for a mess for the outfit when cooked in rice. Very little sign of Moose or Caribou. Tried the stream (creek) for trout but could catch none altho I got two "rises" which I think were greyling. We still find plenty of blueberries. What can I say to make prospectors appreciate difficulties of this trail. Grass not plentiful.

[pg 54] 25th Camp. Aug 18th 98.

Distance travelled 7 miles

Total distance 222 "

Weather Cloudy a.m. Commenced to rain at 9 a.m. & rained all day with occasional intermission

Slept out of doors with tent under me on a bed of spruce boughs. A splendid rest indeed. The swan & rice was excellent for breakfast. Every one ate heartily. I find tea an excellent thing to drink in the evening & especially when getting into camp to warm up on. Mendenhall failed to get colors in the creek this am. Left camp with train at 9.35 a.m. in crossing the creek the bell mare fell down &

would not get up. After lifting her up bridged the creek & brought all the stock across. The travelling was very heavy so much so that we were unable to travel more than a mile per hour. The stock was weary & many of the mules have cut & skinned their legs and especially around the fetlocks. Even on the steep hill & mountain sides we find the travelling heavy from moss & boggy ground. In places a great amount of high willows that are so thick as to require trail cutting. Several miles of small brush intervening kept us in brush all the time. This is very hard on clothing & many days of it will make us all naked. My underwear is playing out rapidly and will scarcely last until my return. We crossed a foothill with an elevation of 3700' (about 400' below its summit), and as the stock was worn out and every one wet decided to go into Camp. The brush when wet makes one passing through it wetter than to wade a stream. Schoonhoven put up my tent for me & after putting on my mud shoes I cut some pine boughs & crawled into my sleeping bag quite dry & comfortable where I had a good nights sleep. Drying out in the rain after such a march is neither easy nor amusing. The trail of the last three days is passable but scarcely practicable –
Wood at camp stunted spruce & on trail the same with willows. Grass good among the latter

[pg 55] 25th Camp. Aug 19th 1898.

Distance traveled. –

Total distance 222 miles.

Weather, clear a.m. & all day

Refreshing to wake up and find it clear and crisp. At Hick suggestion decided to lie in camp although I sent down to the creek to find a better camp. Stephan having found sign plentiful on yesterday went hunting this a.m. so did Kelly & Canwell. Hicks went to examine for a pass. The Tanana range to the Eastward looks very unforbidding being full of snow caps for 50 miles. to go further in that direction means not to get through this season as our time is now much limited, while to get thro to the Westward is possible yet. With so much sign it is strange we can get no game. Stock broke into a pack last night & destroyed or ate up a sack of flour. They are running down very fast. Blitch returned at 11 a.m. & reported a fair camp on the creek but evidently no better than the one now in so think will remain where we are. All hunters returned without game. Hicks returned about 6 P.M. and reported that he could determine no pass to Tanana but thought the one he saw ran to the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] and that from his point of observation he could determine a pass through the mountains to the Eastward about 40 or 50 miles in a direct line. From our location this must be the pass (The Tokai) mentioned by Lt Allen and if so it pertains to Captain Abercrombie's territory and as there is no question but that we could readily reach it if time permitted - which it does not - I decided therefore to look for the pass that is reported to be at the head of Johnson river, and should Kelly care to undertake to go across to the Eastward to permit him to do so. - I offered to give him a man & transportation to make the trip but he declined and very sensible it was considering the lateness of the season and the uncertainty of effecting a reunion with the main

[pg 56] command or with Captain Abercrombie's party-. We are within 6 or 7 miles of a good sized river to our right and Mt Sanford being S 60°E. from us we think it must be the Christalchina [i.e. Christachina (i.e. Chistochina River)] which flows through two good sized lakes in plain view and into the upper valley of which we shall strike tomorrow. We must be almost directly south of Johnson river and according to our map we can't be more than 60 miles from the Tanana. Several small streams flow into the Christalchina [i.e. Christachina (i.e. Chistochina River)] from directly in front of us and as they looked so promising three of the party went down to prospect them but failed to find a color. Hicks reports much evidence of white man over on this river but nothing very recent. Took some pictures of the mountains in the afternoon & one of them was of the opening to the pass.

[pg 57] 26th Camp. Aug 20th 1898.
On Small creek evidently a branch of
Christalchina

Distance travelled - 12 1/5
Total distance - 234+
Weather - bright a.m. cloudy P.m. - rained at night.

[i.e. Christachina (i.e. Chistochina River)]

Broke Camp at 10 a.m. Sent Kelly and Stephen ahead to look up and follow a well defined trail, discovered by Kelly while hunting on yesterday, with instructions to follow it if it continued in the right direction. We followed in the general direction we intended to go. Took lunch at a small mountain stream a trifle over 5 miles from Camp. Shortly after starting again we struck this trail which is well defined and has been used for a long time by both game and indians. The going was so good that we made good time and went into camp on a small stream in an old indian camp in a protected spot behind a small knoll. Grass excellent, good willows & stunted spruce. Caught a greyling in the stream with a fly. Did not try stream for gold.

This trail seems too well defined for a game trail and we all hope for a pass somewhere on it. In the afternoon we saw two Caribou - a doe & calf - and failed to get either altho Canwell got one shot. A peculiar thing about these is that the doe should have horns very similar to the buck. My left heel again bothered me and I was badly chafed when I arrived in camp, but was not very tired as the going was so good. Canwell now abuses my gun because he failed to kill the Caribou so will carry it myself.

[pg 58] 27th Camp. Aug 21st 98.

Distance travelled 17 miles
Total distance 251 +
Weather a.m. cloudy P.m. raining

Broke Camp at 8 a.m. Sent Kelly and Stephan ahead hunting & to follow trail. Unless it turns to the right N.E. very soon we may have to abandon it. It commenced to rain some after leaving Camp at 8.45 a.m. and rained on us practically all day. Travelling was very disagreeable altho the trail was well cut and solid. This trail must be more than a hunting trail as it is well worn by years of travel particularly by indian use. Our general direction has been more to the North and later in the afternoon turned to the Eastward. About three miles from the Camp one of the mules (Barney's mate) stopped apparently exhausted but it was necessary to push on on account of having no wood which was necessary in order to dry every one off. About five miles back we ran into a trail that is evidently Lieut Castner's & if so he has picked up a couple more indians and this trail of his must go through some sort of pass to the Tanana and probably the Johnson river pass. We continue to find a superabundance of whortleberries of the finest kind and some cranberries. The mosquitoes and flies have not bothered us for a week altho we still find a few of them. The constant rain for nearly a week has made out of door life very disagreeable. Went into Camp on a good sized creek after the longest March of the trip. Its general direction up to this point is East & from here as far as we can see it is North (Magnetic). Used willows & stunted spruce for fire. The grass was superb & the stock did not move from a small spot all night & were well filled up in the morning. We managed to get dry before going to sleep & I patched my drawers for the 1st time in my knowledge. Made a bet with Hicks that stream camped on was not Copper river water and with Mendenhall that it was Tanana water. The 1st a supper at Seattle & the 2nd an oyster supper at Harveys. Was terribly chafed today.

[pg 59] 28th Camp. Aug. 22nd. 98.

Distance travelled - 13 miles
Total distance - 264 +
Weather a.m. cloudy & raining P.m. rained all

afternoon and all night

Was thankful to find it was not raining when I awoke at 6a.m. Hicks & Kelly have started ahead. The former to hunt. The latter to follow the trail and hunt. Won both bets made yesterday as there is now little if any question that the river we camped on is Johnson river. Crossed two small creek on the 2nd found one of Lt Castner's Camps. The trail then went up over quite a high divide or mountain filled with granite boulders that were dangerous for stock to cross fortunately we got over safely. Came down a steep incline to the river found another of Lt Castners Camps which we passed about a mile & went into Camp in a fine spruce grove. We were all wet, tired, hungry and mad, but pleased to know that we are over the divide & that getting to the Tanana is practically assured. Hunters failed to get any game so that we have concluded no game is in the country. The trail was not very good but thus far has been good enough for R.R. or pack train. Found plenty of grass for stock.

[pg 60] 29th Camp. Aug 23rd 98

Distance travelled 16 miles

Total distance 280 + "

Weather - raining a.m. cleared about 10 P.m.

Broke Camp at 10 a.m. soon afterward we were all as wet as possible from the wet brush which whipped the water to the skin at every step. After about 2 miles of travel we sighted an indian camp - the 1st sign of life in 270 miles of travel. They were distant 5 miles on a hog back over which we passed the highest elevation of which was 3425. The grass just before reaching the indian camp was the most luxuriant & plentiful that we have seen thus far. Travelling over this hog back was very tiresome as it was all moss & heavy with some bog. Went into camp just beyond a glacier creek that we crossed (forded) in the afternoon about 5. P.m. A considerable stream tributary came in from the West nearly opposite the indian camp. The trail up to this point is practicable for R.R. and a practicable route can be found near it probably making a cut off that will be practicable for every kind of transportation. Reindeer should thrive in the winter season and stations could be easily established. Mendenhall took a picture of the indians in their camp & purchased some meat from them which they packed to my camp (9 miles). Enough for supper & breakfast which was enjoyed thoroughly by all of us. They had no moccasins or hides for sale so that we still need shoes badly. Tried to get the Copper river indian to say that he would push forward & catch Lt Castner which he finally said he would do in the morning.

[pg 61] 30th Camp. Aug 24th 98.

Distance travelled 8 miles

Total distance 288 "

Weather - Clear a.m. but showery showery P.m. Gave

the Copper river indian an early breakfast so that he could take an early start. After eating he said he must go back to his camp & start from there. This was impracticable as he would have to travel 18 miles to get where my present camp is. I finally decided to send Private Canwell & Stephan with a note written to Castner directing him to await my arrival at the Tanana. I believe he can overhaul him by tomorrow night. The Copper river hated to leave my camp when he found he had missed a job with good feed for 10 days. Mendenhall loaded some plates this a.m. & we must take some pictures of this pass giving the prominent points. Broke Camp at 11 a.m. and at 1 P.m. stopped for lunch & took some photos of the mountains to the right & left & of the pass in rear of us. Time 2-2½ secs with ray filter & short focus. Crossed a small creek before lunch & immediately after came to two creeks coming together near the river Crossed the 1st one after about an hours delay. The 2nd Hicks thought not fordable & so went up over the glacier following Castner's trail, but decided that

no one but a fool, lunatic or idiot would take stock over such a place. So finally crossed the stream without accident & came on to camp about 3 miles down the stream. Found grass far from plentiful so must take an early start & get feed for stock tonight. This glacier is a most uninviting thing to cross Loose soft earth filled with stones & boulders of all sizes & descriptions with seams running through in all directions. The best & only idea to be gotten of the glacial grinding effect is to cross one of them. The stream ran underneath with a deafening noise & on top were many holes running thru the ice sheer down many feet. I don't like glaciers

[pg 62] 31st Camp Aug. 25, 1898.

Distance travelled 12½ miles

Total distance 300½ "

Weather a.m. showery p.m. clear becoming showery Had

camp called early. (5.a.m.). so as to start early & get into camp early for the stock. Awoke with a touch of rheumatism in my right wrist. Broke Camp at 8.45. a.m. after travelling about two miles came to a point on the bar where Castner turned to the foothills and Kelly who was ahead reported a dead mule. Mendenhall found a crossing which the train followed while I went over the hill which I found very rough. Found Lt. C. had cut off some of the mule meat. The trail after a few miles went along a side hill which was filled with boulders & thick under brush so that travelling was very rough slow & tedious. Shortly after coming down to the stream after passing along a side hill I was surprised to find Stephan with two Madanuska [Matanuska] Indians. He reported Lt C only two miles ahead. I decided to push on to his camp & did so. I found he had been compelled to kill his horse that had fallen into the river & could not be gotten up or out. He (C) was building a raft intending to go down the river & thence down the Tanana. From an examination of this raft I should call it a dangerous operation and am glad I sent messengers ahead to catch him. Was glad to find he had fresh meat (both sheep & mule) in camp - He was eating the latter from preference & I must admit that it was very toothsome. His indians including Billy had deserted him but he had gotten Billy back. I could not understand why they did not desire to accompany me to his camp as they said they had no provisions to go back with. Was glad to find his outfit in good physical condition but badly off for clothing especially footwear. We have 300 miles yet to go in order to get back.

[pg 63] 32 Camp Aug 26th 98.

Distance travelled 12 miles

Total distance - 312 "

Weather - a.m. clear, P.m clear - a beautiful day.

Broke Camp at 1115 A.m. - Went 1½ miles through thick timber Then crossed a small stream from which point we found excellent footing for about 8 miles. passed through a quantity of small spruce, cottonwood & some alder. Also found plenty of bunch grass in long stretches. It looked very much like a swamp grass. After about 10 miles crossed a small creek from which point we climbed the hill to a small lake - This hill runs down to the river which widens out at this point covering about a mile with a valley on the other side of about a mile more. The indications are that we must be near its mouth and therefore near the Tanana. The train wound along in good shape but having caught up with the trail Cutters we decided to go into Camp. Took two exposures of the white mountains on the other side of the river from this Camp. Time unknown for the 1st with full stop. Second T 2½. S. Stop 32. ray Filter. Everybody fell to work in good shape & everything seems to move along all right. If can reach Tanana in from 1 to 3 days will feel perfectly safe in sending Castner through to Circle City. A long talk with Castner makes it a trifle more clear as to why he pushes ahead against orders. The infernal uncertainty is largely to blame for it all and I do not attach so much blame to his

acts as I did. If we can only get through comfortably to the Tanana & back with Safety to man & beast I shall be satisfied. Mendenhall washed for gold but got no colors. On a creek passed he found some excellent quartz in appearance. It showed no for gold.

[pg 64] 33rd Camp. Aug 27, 1898.

Distance travelled 1½ miles

Total distance - 314 "

Weather clear a.m.

" P.m.

Awoke several times during the night on account of the cold which was quite penetrating & indicated that we should take warning that this is a cold climate & that our time for starting back is limited. This is the day set for my last of advance but I feel that I must push forward in order to give Castner a chance to push forward to Circle City. The worst feature of the whole thing is that the horse train struck the back trail this morning and have not been found yet and it is now near 1.o'clock. The trail Cutters started about 8 a.m. and will be well ahead before we can possibly start if we start at all. I shall make a short drive if we only travel for an hour. I am utilizing the time to dry out bedding Cameras etc etc also in hobnailing my shoes. Broke camp at 3.10 P.m. - Some of the party shot some fish one of which tasted very good for lunch. Stock was found within a mile of the last Camp. The Colonel disappointed me again in looking for the Stock in that he quit the trail shortly after finding it which necessitated my sending Canwell & McGregor back on horse back after them who returned at 2.P.m. having gone back at least ten miles without finding them & they were hitting the trail back when found. Had only gone a trifle over two miles when we met Blich who was sent back by Hicks to report trail not practicable. Went back about ¾ of a mile to a small creek & went into Camp. In the mean time Hicks climbed the hill to see if a trail was practicable that way. When he returned reported that it was in his judgment possible I decided to call Camp at 4.a.m. and make a long drive to reach it tomorrow if possible. Hicks says foot hills on other side of it ought not to be over 20 miles away

[Pg 65] 34th Camp Aug 28th 98.

Distance travelled 15 miles

Total distance 329 "

Weather a.m. clear

P.m. "

Awoke twice during night, the 1st time on acct of animals trying to go through & the 2nd time because cold. Another cold night with ice on water bucket but not as thick as yesterday morning. The trail cutters started near 5.30 a.m. and we shall start at 7.40 which is our earliest start on the trip. Traveling should be pleasant for 2 or 3 hours as it is cool and crisp. If we can only get along without freezing hard for 3 weeks we will be all right. - Cut off bacon for supper last night because work during day had not been hard. We had potatoes, apples, bread & tea which is good enough even for a working man. Am glad to note that my rheumatic hand is almost well again. Travelled all day until after 5 P.m. and made only 15 miles. Came over a high elevation leaving the Butte to our right. - Delay was caused by having to cut trail for the last 6 & 1st 2 miles. Everybody was used up and the bell mare was exhausted. She is not in condition to go further and so decided to drop out the mule train & give her a rest until my return. Detailed Corporal Young to go back & will send Kelly back with him also the two indians probably & Marv with packer Dillon. Gave him instructions to move back by easy marches to Lieut Castner's last camp.

Saw three Caribou & Billy got a shot at them but only had a pistol so secured no meat. The party (topog's) also saw a bear but did not get a shot at him. Private Blich who went hunting did not get

back to Camp altho I caused a good fire to be lighted for him. I feel no apprehension about him as he is a hunter & I believe secured some game which caused the delay.

[pg 66] 35th Camp Aug 29th 98.

Camp Separation

Distance travelled 12 miles

Total distance 341. miles

Weather clear a.m.

" " shower in the evening

Had camp called at 4 a.m. awoke at 5 a.m. and found everything getting into shape for the day. Private Blitch did not return until after I had started at 11 a.m. The Corporal sent forward Billy & informed me that he had returned so sent word back for him to join me & lost an hour waiting for him. Sent mule train back with instructions to make "Salvation" Camp in 3 marches and await my return with the train hunting some sheep in the mean time. The horse train wandered back on the trail but were caught by good fortune before going a great distance. Should they get away have no doubt we would have considerable trouble trouble [sic] to catch them. The trail was not very troublesome to follow but we finally came to a high bluff at the bottom of which laid a dry creek we should have gone down into when we 1st struck it as we were finally forced to do. We made it down to the Creek seen from camp about 6 P.m. found it was fordable crossed it. Found it to be 12 miles instead of 4 or 5 as we judged. The distance to the Tanana from this Camp cannot be less than 20 to 30 miles and the entire distance is through thick pine forest, which would require several days to take my train through so decided to go no further but to send Lt Castner with Blitch & McGregor forward giving him the 2 small Spanish mules who can readily get through the brush. I decided to give them 20 days rations which should be ample and is certainly much more than I can afford as I am very short and can ill afford to spare it. I have 1 more man than I had on the advance and much less than

[pg 67] half the amount of flour we used in coming this distance Unless we can get some fresh meat we are liable to suffer for rations before we get to Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek], I only decided to go back after consultation with Castner, Mendenhall & Hicks all of whom agreed that it was unsafe to proceed further. All agree that we can have already gone too far for safety of the stock which I am quite anxious to get back alive. Should we have an early freeze up we will not any of them back and this freeze up is liable to come as early as the 10th of September. Nothing especial [sic] is to be gained by making any further advance with the main body as we are certainly within easy reach of the Tanana river which to see would be a very great satisfaction to each & every man of the command. My only care now is to get my command especially the animals to Knik Station alive. Some of them will certainly suffer from the cold as they are now practically barefooted.

[pg 68]

Returning

36th Camp. Aug 30th 98.

Distance traveled 15 miles

Return distance 15 miles

Total distance 356 "

Weather clear & bright all day

Camp was called early & immediately after breakfast rations were issued to Lt. Castner. He was short on flour & bacon but rice, sugar & beans extra with tea would more than compensate for this. I think he is safe on the score of provisions, & wish that I were equally so. He has fully enough to live on for 30 days without running out assuming that he loses none. Broke Camp at 10 am and marched back 15 miles 3 miles back of camp 34. & camped on a small lake. My present outfit of 6 men

including myself & six horses seems very small to me, but we are travelling light and have only horses that travel fast. Camp is on a small lake with grass around it in abundance for the stock. Wind blew all night very strong & we had difficulty in cooking supper. We notice that all grass is turning yellow and dry so that stock does not feed on it readily. Arranged to break Camp early so as to make our march during the cool part of the day. With short rations & winter coming on we must drive hard. Was very badly chafed on account of the heat & shall try a bandage on the legs tomorrow when we have to go about 17 miles.

[pg 69] 37th Camp. Aug 31st 98

Distance travelled 15. miles

Return distance 30. "

Total distance 371. "

Weather. raining a.m.

cleared about 11 a.m. but rained all night

Awoke at a little before 5 a.m. to find wind still blowing and that it had commenced to rain. Hicks & Mendenhall started ahead at 6 a.m. to hunt. I shall start in less than half an hour. Am still sore from chafing but have put a roller bandage on each leg to try it. A far from cheerful day on which to travel but we must go rain or shine. Broke Camp at 6.30 Started in a heavy rain & wind storm. Had been just half an hour out of ran into two Caribou (buck & doe) who stood & watched us until within about 30 to 40 yds of them when they trotted off leisurely. Went along through thick wet brush & moss until 9.40 a.m. when just on reaching the Summit we saw some men near a lake that proved to be Corporal Young & party. As soon as we recognized them we knew that they must have fresh meat & upon reaching Camp found that Stephan had killed a moose the 1st day back & on the following day Marv had killed a young Caribou near camp while waiting for them to return. At least 4 to 5 hundred lbs of fresh meat that assured enough meat for us to use in returning to Bubbs river [i.e. Bubbs Creek]. Found some bone had been left in also some poor meat which will throw out tonight as 300 lbs is all that we can possibly use before it spoils in the packs. We stopped in this Camp to rearrange packs and utilized the time in filling up on fresh meat of which each of us ate 2 or 3 lbs. I pause to state that this seems to be the best game region we have passed through. We have seen Moose, Caribou, and bear in abundance and the trails are very well marked indeed. This is particularly the case in regard to the Country in and around the Corporals

[pg 70] camp and just beyond or back of my present camp. We left camps 33 & 34 to our right returning & made a cut off which saved one or two miles for us. Went into Camp in a cotton wood & Spruce grove close to a fine running stream in which we had shot some fish when in Camp 33. Grass was in abundance behind us, altho the horse train indicated a desire to go ahead about daylight this morning. We managed to fill up thoroughly on fresh meat last night & still had liver & bacon for breakfast. Decided to cut down the flour ration to ½ a loaf to each meal & gave orders accordingly. In regard to the meat I learned something about cooking marrow. We take the bone, stick it on a sharp stick and stick it up close to the fire where it should roast about 2 or more hours, be careful not to break the bone until thoroughly cooked then spread on bread or toast. It is fine
The Butte we passed & where we killed the Caribou & Moose Mendenhall called "Caribou" Butte.

[pg 71] 38th Camp Sept 1st 98.

Distance travelled 14 miles

Return Distance 44 "

Total Distance 385

Weather - am raining

P.m "

Awoke camp at 4.10 a.m. Had liver & bacon for breakfast. Ordered a start at 6.30 but did not get ready until 7.45 a.m. Raining slowly but surely & hard enough to wet a man thoroughly in half an hour. This has been a most disagreeable day came into camp wet & hungry but fortunately finished my march at 12.45 P.m. Made a somewhat shorter march than I otherwise would in order to get grass for the Stock. We must have some good grass as that in our camps for the next 2 or 3 days will not be good. Much to my surprise I did not find tonight's grass as badly nipped as I anticipated. The stock struck the trail at the rate of a trifle over $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles an hour. The bell mare did better than I expected she would but I have no hope of getting her back to the Knik. In making my calculations I find that it is possible to get back as far as Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek] in 10 or 11 days or about the 12th as I originally hoped which should render my return safe enough in the absence of cold weather that kills all the grass. The wood was not good & cooking disagreeable in the extreme but improved by making a "lean to" on each side of the fire. The Corporal reported the sugar running low, & so must ration it out. Can spare no more for rice.

Mendenhall found only a few small colors in the glacier creek at camp.

Found a curious indian axe stuck in a tree & brought it along.

[pg 72] 39th Camp Sept 2nd 98.

Distance travelled 16 miles

Return distance 60 "

Total Distance 401 "

Weather, a.m. raining, then cloudy

P.m raining hard.

Called the Camp at 3.40. had breakfast at five a.m. but stock had wandered back in early to Camp Salvation on the grass. All were well filled up. They did not return until 6.10 a.m.-but hope to start in an hour. Reached Camp near Camp 29 at 3.10 P.m. having passed 30 about 11. a.m. This was the day's march that I dreaded more than any other on account of crossing the glacier streams but very fortunately we found both of these streams had changed their channels & were fordable with practically no delay the only inconvenience was the cold water which carried an immense amount of gravel that filled one's sox & hurt the feet in walking so much so that men had to stop & take off their shoes & stockings to get them out. To do this when already thoroughly chilled is pretty hard. Altho Camp was called at 3.40 the stock did not come into Camp until nearly 7.o'clock (6.45). It was a hard days march & very hard on the men because so cold & wet. Found a good Spruce tree, dry underneath for a bed & with a fire dried out after a time. Had Stephan patch my trousers. Found very good grass & plenty of dry wood. The camp is on a small stream that commenced to rise after we went into camp & drove the cooks out of the kitchen. Found some good green grass just after crossing glacier creek but did not stop as it was too short a march. We can see the snow coming down on the foothills. Ugh, but its cold!!

[pg 73] 40th Camp Sept 3rd 98

Distance travelled $16\frac{1}{2}$ miles

Return distance 76 "

Total distance 417

Weather a.m. clear & cold

P.m clear but rained all night

Horses were near Camp but took a turn at running back on the trail for about 3 miles. It froze very hard last night & is still freezing at 7 a.m. this morning. My sleeping bag was very comfortable. Snow is still lower down on the foothills this a.m. Changed our route over the divide & found much

harder travelling. Not nearly so much bog. Stopped at noon for over 4 hours in good grass to let stock fill up on it then resaddled & packed up for the remainder of our march. During the stop we dried out the packs & reduced weight nearly one half. Fixed up the 4x5 camera & put in a film. Mendenhall loaded some plate holders for the 5x7 Cameras. The latter part of the trip was very brushy & is simply terrible on our clothes. Men are constantly mending trousers & shoes. Three or four of them are practically on the ground. Hicks is badly off also. One Copper River Indian came to my camp & had 1 pr of moccasins that I told him I would purchase if he would bring it to my camp tonight. Had the 3 mares hobbled close so that I hope to have them on hand in the morning. Found plenty of grass but it shows signs of having been nipped. Went into Camp in Castners Camp having passed 28 & 29. After getting into camp the indian showed up with the moccasins but it was too late to examine them. Having made bread at the noon stop we did not have much cooking to do.

[Pg 74] 41st Camp Sept 4th 98.
Camp Discouragement

Distance travelled 13 miles
Return distance 89 "
Total distance 430 "
Weather a.m. raining
P.m " }hard

It rained all night and I was on the wrong side of the tree. My sleeping outfit was very wet and I waked up several times to pour water out of my ear. Stock showed up before 5.30 a.m. and we broke Camp at 7. a.m. Wet shoes and stockings are not comfortable to put on in the morning. The rain was constant also a head wind which combined with the brush & wet spongy moss made the travelling very trying on both men & animals. The wind and rain chilled every one to the bone. Two mules (Murphy [Nasty] and Barney) played out and refused to go farther. As both gave indications of being sick I left them on the trail and packed their loads on the men. The bell mare [Molly] gave out completely & I ordered her to be shot, not only because she was a complete physical wreck but she refused to rustle for grass when at all tired and several of the mules would stay with her without feed which will result in certain loss of all of them as well. She was exceedingly nervous and tired herself out on the trail by sheer nervous energy. One of the small creeks on the trail delayed us to find a crossing as it was not fordable where we crossed it for men or mules. This was the days march I most dreaded for the stock as this side of the summit we had to cross was full of rocks & boulders covered with moss which in places concealed any & all crevices. We managed to avoid the

[pg 75] greater part by changing our route partly. The men & animals were very much chilled on on [sic] the summit and this with the fact that the stock filled up on frosted grass probably caused the animals to play out. I am informed that stock play out in this country just as ours did yesterday. That is, they are bright & quick apparently all right one minute and the next minute they are complete done up, and are more than liable to die. Our camp I call "Camp Discouragement" because we are all so wet, tired, hungry and discouraged. It required six or seven of us to pack the loads of the played out stock. I neglected to state that the "Kid" and "Jack" (Barney's Mate) also played out. The former managed to get to camp with his load & the latter without his an hour or so later but he was in sight of Camp all the time. I shall have to abandon all surplus stuff in the way of canvas etc & if we have sunshine must dry out everything. It promises to be clear tomorrow.

[pg 76] 42nd Camp. Sept 5th 98.

Distance travelled 7 miles
Return distance 96 "
Total distance 437 "

Weather a.m. cloudy but breaking away.

Sent back for the two abandoned mules they being only about 2 miles back with orders to bring them to camp if possible but if not to kill them. In about two hours men returned with one mule. The other was killed because too sick & played out to move. His sheath was badly swollen [sic] and his back over the kidneys. It was a mercy to kill him. Am gratified to note that the mules take to the new bell mare (Queen) and manage to rustle for food with her. I have more hope of getting them through alive. We are now reduced to practically 9 animals as Barney, Jack and Kid will do well to carry their pack saddles without any loads at all. Their chances of getting back are slim especially the 1st two as they are not rustlers. Decided not to break camp until very late in the afternoon in hopes that I can rest the weak mules sufficiently to make about 10 miles empty. Did not have the herd brought into camp until 12.30 P.m. An indian (Copper river) came into camp just before noon & said that he had plenty of moccasins and skins (Caribou & Moose) some of which are tanned. If we get enough of these for the coffee I intended to abandon we will pull through to the Knik. Foot wear is the problem with us now.

Found good grass & water at this camp & enough wood to cook with and the sick mules not being very fresh decided to rest them

[pg 77] rather than try to push them on, especially as we did not get started until after 2 o'clock. Vanschoonhoven & Andrew came into camp about dark (we fired some shots to signal them) with 4 prs of moccasins together with an untanned Caribou & some scraps of Moose skin tanned These will help us out very much indeed but is not enough for us by any means as we still have near 250 miles to Knik Station and 100 miles to our cash.

Made no bread last night so gave the men rice & meat in abundance for supper & breakfast, with the latter meal gave each a small flap jack. Ordered a small ration of chocolate issued for lunch tomorrow with no bread but meat if desired. Every one seems satisfied.

[pg 78] 43rd Camp Sept 6th.

Distance travelled 17 miles

Return distance 113 "

Total distance 454 "

Weather a.m. Clear but clouded at noon

P.m. sprinkled & cloudy in evening

Broke Camp at 7.30 a.m. We had a very heavy frost last night. The "Babe's Mate" and Barney did not come in with the herd but were soon found

[Scenery drawing with the following written: A poor profile showing the pass from the South also the pass towards the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] and the pass come through by Castner. The latter from the South.]

[pg 79] Broke camp at 7.30 a.m. & travelled until 3.40 P.m. continuously. The trail altho good by comparison was very wet and much more so than when we went over it showing that it has rained hard since that time. Went into camp on hill side across the creek from Camp 25. We do not think that we are as far from Camp 23 (on the river) as we were at Camp 25 altho' we are 5 or 6 miles beyond that Camp by the old trail. Was very much afraid of the old or rather the weak stock but they came thro in good shape comparatively. We are all pleased that this march practically lets us out of the mountains and we will not be above timber line much if any more.

The grass is getting very poor indeed and it may yet prove impossible to get the stock back alive - If I can get them to Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek] with them I can send men ahead on foot with orders

to have grain come out to meet me with grain.

This march was a very long one and all got into Camp quite tired but in good shape and in good spirits. Our Camp is in an old indian Camp and about half a mile from the creek with very fair grass.

[pg 80] 44th Camp. Sept 7th 98

Distance travelled - 12 1/3 miles

Return distance 125 "

Total distance 466 "

Weather a.m. clear & cool.

P.M. Cloudy, sprinkled a little

Broke camp at 7.20. Hicks & Andrew went ahead early to follow the trail. Kelly went ahead of me to blaze the trail & as he was blazing I did not notice. The result was we wandered around losing 40 minutes of precious time. Nevertheless we made our distance by 2 o'clock bringing the cripples in in fair shape altho all of the stock were very tired. The trail was very boggy in places, but with all very far superior to the trail we made in advance besides we saved full six miles by keeping on the indian trail. The trouble with this as with all indian trails is that they follow ground that requires the least work to make it passable and water is no obstacle to them. In short they follow the line of least resistance in the way of brush or timber. Mendenhall used his "Shell game" again but will not have to do so tomorrow as we practically joined our advance trail. We struggled against a strong head wind & camped on a lake because the grass around it seemed the greenest. We passed thru some green grass early in the day but it showed signs of Fall weather. Very little timber, all of it scrub spruce & some burned district. We still have enough fresh meat for today. The last mile & half of trail was swamp & all of tomorrows trail with a river to cross

[pg 81] 45th Camp Sept 8th 98.

Distance travelled 5 miles

Return distance 130. "

Total distance 471 "

Weather a.m. clear & cool,

P.M. " "

Broke camp at 7.45 a.m. Camp was not called until 5. o'clock. Sent Kelly ahead to examine the river & if not fordable to locate some suitable timber with which to raft stuff & men across the river Will swim the animals if necessary. We had travelled but about 2½ miles when we struck a small creek that from the recent rains we found to be not fordable from the recent continued rains. We had just stopped & commenced to bridge when met Mr Monroe & party consisting of two horses. A.H. Monroe, T. Lindsay, John Lee and Joe Budy, who had come over my trail and were enroute to the Tanana. They immediately decided to turn back. From them I learned that the river (Gakona ?) was not fordable & they had used a raft that they had preserved. While we were crossing the creek they returned to the river & fixed this so as to be ready for us on arrival. We swam the horses over and in about two hours had rafted all our stuff across making several trips to do so. From them I procured 50# of flour. That will relieve us of any embarrassment if our cache is undisturbed at Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek]. They are well supplied with grub and have two good head of stock. They acted wisely in turning back on account of their stock. From them I learn that another party with two horses are also in route and that they should meet us today. Their stock must

[pg 82] be very weak and we may have some trouble in getting them back, but shall not anticipate other peoples troubles. They also brought me the "Seattle P.I" of July 29th, a month later than any we had seen & from it we learned of Spain having sued for peace. From him I learned that a good

thing for Mosquitoes is to burn about a spoonful of Buhac (Persian insect powder) in the tent & then close it up. The fumes are not offensive or injurious & are yet deadly for mosquitoes. I also learn from him that the S.S. Excelsior is to take my party out and that she will sail from Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia] not later than Oct 20th next. We went into camp just after crossing the river in a cotton wood grove, took the limit off of bread and every one filled up on hot "flap jacks" fried in Moose grease.

The trail we followed through the mountains I think could be shortened & improved we think by following the pass Hicks saw from the mountain.

Took a bath in the river & found it very cold.

[pg 83] 46th Camp Sept 9, 98.

Distance travelled 12 miles

Return distance 142 "

Total distance 483 "

Weather a.m. clear & cold

P.m. " " cool

Camp was called at 3.30. & we will probably get on the road about 6.a.m. We will probably lose the "Kid" today as he fell down twice yesterday the second time without any good reason being apparent. Broke Camp at 6.15 a.m. Made a cutoff that saved us half a mile. Found the stock stood going through the swamp very well. The Monroe party started ahead & kept until they lunched when we kept on. A few minutes afterward we met Messrs N.H. Marshall & Chas Hubbard. They are a party of three Mr N.A. Macht being the other partner. They started from Knik with two horses but both had played out. They left Mr Macht 3 days since with one horse & he is to turn back & work back slowly. They came on with the other horse who played out last night about 10 miles back. They left him taking packs on their backs & came on to meet me if possible. They are very anxious to get back & their stock will not carry their stuff. I came on about a mile & a half and went into Camp. Two of my weak animals played out completely today again. I told Mr Marshall that if he would bring my three weak animals into Knik with as little delay as practicable I would turn them over to him. He had asked me to assist him to pack his stuff out

[pg 84] and this is the only way I can possibly do it. My remaining animals (nine) are already sufficiently loaded with my own outfit. This arrangement avoids the necessity for abandoning of or killing them. To abandon is worse than to kill as it is sure death any way at the hand of wolves, and it is impossible to save them if I try to keep them. In a word it is the only chance to save them. Mr Marshall showed our cooks how to make bread by burying it in coals & hot ashes. It was fine. Find that he is from Minneapolis & was an old R.R. man, having worked for the N.P.R.R. for some time. The trail passed out of the green spruce and into the burned district. We camped in No 21 & had practically no grass except slough grass which is not very strengthening. Decided to try stopping at noon for a few days to see if the stock stands it better to make long drives with noon rest. This will enable us to give them the best grass the country affords. From Marshall party we have secured footwear for Hicks & Schoonhoven & expect to secure a pair for Dillon.

[pg 85] 47th Camp. Sept 10th 98.

Distance travelled 17 miles

Return distance 159 "

Total distance 500 "

Weather a.m. cloudy & foggy

P.M. " at intervals

Woke up at 4.a.m. to find Hicks up & fires built. The herd not far away. Breakfast called just before 5 a.m. Broke Camp at 6.15. a.m. The Marshall party will try to keep up with us for 10. miles or to their Camp. Found the trail in fair condition and made about 10 miles in 4 hours when I stopped for lunch and to rest the animals. Found that fires lighted by us on the advance as signals had spread in two or three places considerably. Small spruce & moss with considerable underbrush marks the trail. One noticeable feature is that the travelling is much better in our trail than over the untravelled moss. Wherever the country is burned the trail seems improved. We had travelled about 10 miles at 10.15. a.m. (4 hours travel) and hope to make 7 or 8 more by the time we camp. Broke camp from lunch at 1 P.M. the rest being 3 hours. The sun came out just about 12.30. P.m. at intervals. Had flapjacks and bacon for lunch. Have but few meals of rice left, one mess of apples, no beans, but little flour & sugar. Still we will pull through.

Went into camp at 3.40 P.M. on a small lake under a knoll, with fair grass of 3 varieties. We were in sight of the big lake about 4 miles back & travelled along side of or rather parallel to it for about 3 miles. This lake has caused considerable discussion. Hicks, Kelly & self do not agree with Mendenhall as to the shape of it. It seems to us to be very much longer than it is broad

[pg 86] Castner also makes it about 7 or 8 times as long in North & South direction as East & West. Its general course seems to be N.E. & S.W. or rather E of N by W of S.

[pg 87] 48th Camp. Sept 11th 1898

Distance travelled 18. (?) miles

Return distance 177 "

Total distance 518 "

Weather a.m. clear with clouds

P.m. cloudy-rained in evening

Broke Camp at 6.10. a.m. It was quite cold but not much frost. Passed Nos 18 & 19 & camped in a small stream that Kelly had come ahead to fix if necessary & also with instructions to find a camp for us for the night. The grass is so badly frosted that it has practically no substance and it is with great difficulty that we can find any that the stock will fill up on at all satisfactorily. One of our horses (Snider) played out on us just before reaching camp & had to be unpacked, She is a good young animal and aside from a sore back (a bad one she has had the entire trip) she has proved one of the best animals we had. It has been almost impossible to saddle or pack her without hurting her back.

The trail passed through marshy boggy land the greater part of the day with but little grass or wood except stunted spruce most of which is in the old burn. The trail passed over considerable glacial deposit but we left Camp 18 to the left & avoided considerably the worst of this kind of trail. We struck a boggy place on the creek we had trouble in crossing in the advance & had to bridge the creek in order to get over. We lunched at the floating bog and found it to be in need of repair so fixed it and started out in fair shape. We did not make to exceed 17. miles but as I so recorded it under a misapprehension or miscalculation I let

[pg 88] it stand. All of our stock is very leg weary and it is questionable if they can stand it to go on at the rate we are now going, and yet we must rush all that is possible until we get to the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] or in that vicinity. We expect to get to the river tomorrow. It is then 4 days to Hicks Cash which we must reach to be reasonably safe. Used our last sugar to sweeten our tea tonight. We have none for breakfast.

[pg 89] 49th Camp. Sept 12th 1898.

Distance travelled - 17 miles

Return distance 194 "

Total distance 535

Weather a.m. foggy & raining

P.m. rained hard & all night

Broke Camp at 7.a.m. in a foggy rain that is not cold. Hope to find a reasonably good trail for today although a long march is ahead of us. - Noon - We have travelled twelve miles to a small creek where there is an abundance of bunch grass that is drying up (freezing) rapidly. The stock eats it better than anything we have had for several days. They commenced to feed on it at once and continued to do so for 3 hours when they rested. Snider came along fairly well being led the last mile. I still hope to save her but cannot do so if she does not improve rapidly. She eats voraciously but seems feverish as she drinks very frequently. Met Mr Macht of the Marshall party at the creek. Got enough sugar from him for tea for lunch, to be repaid at our Cache tonight. Also bought a pair of leather shoes for Canwell & secured the rubber shoes of Mr Marshall for Vanschoonhoven. He seemed discouraged but is doing very well in working back and his horse is much improved. Coffee without sugar did not taste as good as usual but there was no growl or talk about it by any one. We have not suffered for food as yet although our fare could be much improved without causing any growl. Too much bacon grease is not good for us. After lunch travelled about 6. miles to Camp. Crossed Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek] as soon as we struck it and

[pg 90] travelled up the west bank for about 2 miles until nearly opposite the Cache (about 300 yds below it). Stock very leg weary and no grass worth mentioning. As we had 100 lbs of flour more than we needed and that we could not carry, I decided to feed it to the Stock and so gave them 50 lbs reserving 50 lbs for the morning. A nicely located but decidedly disagreeable camp. A large pine tree (fir) kept us dry without a tent.

Shall shed my worn out Canvas trousers and put on my sheep skin ones that are without any holes. Shall send VanSchoonhoven & Stephan back by the old trail to push through & get grain as far as up the trail as possible. Will try to so arrange matters as not to delay the train & to add as little as possible to the packs in weight. The trail passed over is very good indeed but might be better near the river. There must have been at least 100 acres of good bunch grass where we camped for lunch and the stock relished it thoroughly.

[pg 91] 50th Camp. Sept 13th 1898.

Distance travelled 10½

Return distance 204½

Total distance 545½

Weather a.m. cloudy but clearing

Broke Camp at 10.25. a.m. Van Schoonhoven & Stephan accompanied by young Budy started early - between 7 & 8. a.m. - with enough rations to carry them as far as Lieut Castner's Cache at the head of Cañon Creek. When we rearranged packs found that we would not have any more weight per animal than we had. I abandoned a Carabou [sic] skin, 7 dozen plates (4x5), 2 doz 5x7, and some other public property of which Corpl Young took a list. The Mare Snyder is apparently better but still too weak to carry a pack although she still carries a 40 lb saddle. The stock ate up the remaining 50 lbs of flour and seemed to thoroughly relish it. At this writing they have travelled 7½ miles and all seem to be in good shape. We travelled at a very regular pace for 3 hours when I decided to stop until we could get some lunch. In the mean time we had caught up with Hicks. The trail although somewhat mossy and heavy travelling we found far better than we anticipated. In fact with a broken

trail it would be very good travelling the entire distance thus far travelled but we did not come over the indian trail that is boggy. Started after lunch at 3.30 P.m. & travelled until 5. P.m. Saw several indian fires and some game sign but not much. Camped on a side hill with good grass - the best we have had on the trail today - because I was afraid to go beyond it with my stock in their present condition. I

[pg 92] should have made 2 or 3 miles more & would have done so except for the grass struck. Decided to throw away the ammunition chest & pack the remaining few rounds loose in a sack. The box was hurting the mule.

I should have mentioned the fact that grass would be abundant and good earlier in the season. I notice also that reindeer moss and reindeer food is plentiful all along the trail.

The trail passed to the West or North of the main stream that flows into Lake Plaveznie [i.e. Tazlina] and which I presume should be called the Tezlina [i.e. Tazlina]. It heads in a glacier of which I took a 4x5 slow snap and a 5x7 shot short focus. 2. sec. ex. There is about 3 times as much water in it as in Bubb river [i.e. Bubb Creek]. There is a trail down the East or South side of it that our indian (Billy) says is practicable for horses down to Copper river. Three glaciers (two besides the one at the head) empty into it. Over the second one the indians report that a few white men came this year and over the lower one a great many men & horses. As they came from tide water it is probable these head near the Valdez glacier.

[pg 93] 51st Camp. Sept 14th 98.

Distance travelled 16. miles

Return distance 220½ "

Total distance 561½ "

Weather a.m. cloudy & cold

P.m. cleared up

Broke Camp at 645. a.m. It was very snappy this morning and I found that I had crawled well down into my sleeping bag during the night. I did not like to get out for breakfast at all when I awoke about 4.30. a.m. Our stock came into Camp looking for more flour but unfortunately for them we had none to spare. Regret that the weather is cloudy as we will be unable to get a view of the mountains. It promises to clear up later in the day - 11.a.m. Have just stopped for lunch and the wind is now & has been all morning blowing strong from the North. It means Fall weather and time to push on out of this section of Alaska. Am glad I exchanged my hunting coat for a leather coat Private Canwell did not want as it feels comfortable in this wind. We are now on or rather opposite the divide and have passed the last (?) # stream flowing to Copper river and from this time on will be on the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] or its tributaries. We should reach Hick's Cache tomorrow evening and from there on we can probably make it to Knik safely if we get forage as ordered. Hicks thinks this weather means snow. We have made 10 miles now and can make 6 or 7 more which can be duplicated tomorrow we hope. Snyder seems to be improving but is not strong yet. The 3 remaining mules seem to be in fair condition. Only gave the stock a 2 hour rest as the grass was not very good and a cold raw wind with sprinkling rain prevented them from feeding. It is necessary besides for us to push along and get down off of the divide. Mendenhall only stepped 4070 to my 4508, which is too much

[pg 94] of a discrepancy. Shall take longer strides this afternoon if possible. Three days from Canon Creek but 4 if we take a rest with 10 miles to cut thru a lot of bad wind fall day after tomorrow.

Have crossed one stream since that flowed into Copper river and there is quite a number of lakes

that we passed about 5 or more miles in extent after above was written. Trail passed over a ridge then between two lakes & then on the side of another ridge. Two hours after starting we struck some fine grass in a small bunch that I decided to let the Camped on some very dry bunch grass & the stock will not gain much benefit from it. Hicks went on ahead & returned in the evening with a Spring lamb. Killed with my gun that carried the whole lower jaw away striking in the back of the neck as it ran from him

[pg 95] 52nd Camp. Sept 15th 98

Distance travelled 13 miles

Return distance 233½ "

Total distance 574½ "

Weather a.m. cloudy but promising

P.m. clear

Broke camp at 6.50 a.m. - after a good breakfast of beans & bacon with plenty of fresh lamb fried. It was very frosty last night. Trail followed along the hillside for about 3 miles & then turned abruptly to the flat below where the forest was burned off last year. And in this district found some rich green grass that the stock went wild over, so much so that it was almost impossible to drive them along the trail. After making about 5 miles went into camp for lunch in good grass, and plenty of it. I decided to do this because it is only about 7 miles to our camp tonight (Hicks Cache). I exposed two 5x7 plates on the mountains at the mouth of Caribou Creek. Also a 4x5. I also exposed a 4x5 on the same mountain further back and on the head of the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] which is not a satisfactory view. Exposed it in hopes to be able to show this country from the West because there is a pass over it and down The Tezlina [i.e. Tazlina] to the Copper river.

Broke camp after lunch at 2. P.m. went ahead of the train in hopes to get a photo of the country down the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] but unfortunately the sun was shining directly into my camera and could not take it as I wished. I carried Mendenhall's camera & used it. I also paced the trail for him. He with Privates Canwell & Marv went hunting but failed to get any sheep although they saw and shot at some. I found a bad swamp & being ahead of

[pg 96] the train was very much exercised about their getting but they caught up with me and managed to come through it all right. It was a yellow wash from the mountains (probably iron). We then passed through some hilly (low hills) country in which we found some excellent grass still green. Found the trail to the Cache longer than we anticipated and consequently got into camp quite late. Sent the stock across the river but it was too late for the packers to see the grass & the consequence was that they were soon back in camp. We drove them out & it was not long until we heard the bell jingling contentedly.

[pg 97] 52nd Camp Sept 16, 98.

Distance Travelled 0 ---

Return distance 233½ miles

Total distance 534½ "

Weather a.m. cloudy

P.m. showery.

Decided that the stock must have a rest as all are very leg weary & Snyder is about played out. If my messengers get through we will gain in horse flesh saved as they will have time to get forage to meet me at the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] Creek by the time I get there. Kelly, Marv & Canwell went hunting but found or got nothing. We are now practically safe unless we catch extremely severe weather. The rest will enable the stock to reach the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] any way. Was much

surprised to find the Caribou quite high altho not so much swollen [sic] as it has been recently. We will have a 12 mile March ahead of us tomorrow & nearly all of it is to be cut out being timber. Arranged with the Monroe party to have two of them help us to cut trail but this evening their horses turned up missing & have been all day so that they will not be able to do so. Was glad to find that our stock had found good grass within a hundred yards of camp where they have been remained contented & happy all day with well filled stomachs. Private Canwell found a good axe, bucket & tin cup in a deserted Camp all of which will come in quite useful to us but especially the axe tomorrow. Took some views today (seven). One of

[pg 98] the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] looking up. One looking down (West). One of glacier hill. One of the hill to the right over which the trail passes. One looking up Caribou (North). Two of the glacier looking South. --

This is one of the most picturesque and interesting spots thus far seen in Alaska, and the trail thus far is practicable and as it joins the other about 15 miles from here below all the impracticable parts of the other route have no doubt it will be all right. Hicks remained in Camp all day on account of suffering from piles (his 1st experience) and Billy our indian boy was quite sick yesterday but three compound Cathartics fixed him up today. Sheep meat affected me considerably but not enough to stop my eating it thus far.

[pg 99] 53rd Camp. Aug [Sept] 17, 98.	Distance travelled 11½
	Return distance 245
	Total distance 586
	Weather a.m. Clear
	P.m. "

Broke camp at 9 a.m. The trail cutters had gotten out at 6. a.m. having to cut trail all day. Came ahead of the train until lunch stop at 1. P.m. in order to take some pictures. The crossing of the rise next to Glacier Hill was not so hard as we expected, We immediately descended to the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] & practically followed its banks until lunch when we gradually ascended for about 2 miles (the regular indian trail goes lower down), when we travelled along the side of a very steep hill for about a half mile then along side of a very mossy hill on the bank of a small stream finally down this by a steep hill and in half an hour we struck Cañon Creek at its mouth. The location of camp is picturesque in the extreme being surrounded by perpendicular cliffs with the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] & Cañon creeks in front (South & East & the small creek in rear of us. To the right and left (West & East nearly) high mountains show up having a sprinkling of snow, recently fallen, on their summits. Small cotton wood brush in the vallen [sic] & on the hill sides with beautifully colored leaves from the Fall frosts. Every one tired from the days tramp and but little feed for the stock. They will be two more nights without grain any way & possibly 3. The messengers should reach Melishis

[pg 100] cabin today if they did not do so last night, and the grain should start today in any event. We have about two more miles of trail cutting before we strike the old trail. We should make the distance via the advance route and by the return route about the same length. The latter is far better and by a little change could be made practicable for stock at all seasons. The R.R. trail should cross Cañon Creek above the mouth & strike the small creek in our rear well up towards its head.

[pg 101] 54th Camp. [Sept] Aug 18, 98	Distance travelled 8½
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Return distance 253½

Total distance 594½

Weather a.m. clear.

" P.m. "

Broke camp at 8. a.m. with Cañon creek to cross and it is very cold. Shall try to ride rather than have cold wet feet all day. A 10 mile march to grass and only 3 miles at most of newly cut trail. We should get in by 1. o'clock at latest. Next to the last mess of beans for breakfast and last mess of rice for supper. The "Colonel" played out cutting trail and was too mad at having to drive herd out after coming back to eat any supper. Crossed Canon creek on a small log Hicks had thrown across without any trouble. Then climbed the hill or mountain, found timber & windfall very thick especially the latter so much so that it was impossible to clear it properly. Managed to drag the stock through without accident. Struck the advance trail by the lake at a distance of a trifle over a mile and a half from Camp. It took nearly two hours to cover the distance. Found some excellent currants that tasted fine to us. Went into camp on a hill side 1600' feet above the elevation of the night before. It was a gradual but continuous climb all day after striking the old trail. Hicks killed 5 grouse with my gun that tasted well for lunch. We are now but 80 miles from Melish's place which we will cover

[pg 102] in six days. The weather is simply fine being very cold at night but bright and warm during the day. For last 3 nights we have had the good luck to have it cloud up at night which prevented extreme cold & heavy frosts.

Took two snaps in the Cañon Creek Camp. One showing Camp & where trail came through. The other looking up the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska]. Wish had taken the latter after climbing the hill.

[pg 103] 55th Camp. Sept 19th 98.

Distance travelled 12½

Return distance 266

Total distance 607

Weather a.m. clear

P.m. "

Broke camp at 7 a.m. expecting & hoping to camp on Boulder creek tonight. Hicks thinks the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] will be high for this season of the year. Weather fine for travelling and the 2nd half of trail is good while the 1st is not very bad. Travelled along the old trail ahead of the train to take pictures. Found fairly good traveling and all of it improved by stock having passed over it but the Mossy hill the other side of the Kelly camp (no 9) was but little improved and was heavy going and trying on the stock. Reached the Kelly camp about 11. a.m. Found the recorded distance on the advance (7 miles) between Camps 9 & 10 was short & should be 8 miles at least as it was a trifle over 7 miles from 54 to this camp. Picked up the medicines (surgical case) left there & some things belonging to Andrew putting a small pack on Snyder. Queen is carrying the bulk of the load now. When we reached camp sent the two packers over to the cache to get the contents. Found flour, sugar, bacon, coffee, pepper & salt, also a large camp kettle. On their return they reported the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] very low altho' we found Boulder Creek higher than when we left. Note from Vanschoonhoven stating that he passed here on the 3rd day at 1. P.m. & the Cache across the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] 2. P.m same day. He will

[pg 104] probably make it a trifle inside of 5 days if he keeps up his average up to this place and it is possible that he started some forage up the same date. If so they have travelled over 2 days today and should be at least as far as King creek tomorrow. Found Daisy was about played out and all of the

stock is about used up. It is absolutely necessary to rest them here. Fed them about 40 lbs of flour that they ate ravenously except old "Tex" who spoiled most of his. Mendenhall saw two Moose & was very anxious to lie over a day.

[pg 105] 55th Camp. Sept 20th 1898. Distance travelled 0
Return distance 266
Total Distance 607
Weather a.m. clear
P.m. "

Called camp at usual time so as to give the hunters a chance to get out early. Mendenhall took Billy (Andrew) with him. Kelly went alone Hicks went down the river to prospect & hunt taking his bedding with him to stay out all night. The Colonel went alone & returned before noon with only a grouse. None of the others got anything. Sent Canwell ahead with orders to go as far as King creek & to push the forage on from there as soon as it arrived. In the afternoon about 5. P.m. Privates Woodworth and Evans showed up with 1. horse & 2. mules with 4 sax of oats. Immediately sent for the herd & gave them all a good feed. Left some 1/2 sack for the Marshall party in their Cash with a note telling him I would leave some at Marshall, King, Moose & the lakes if I had it to spare.

The march of Vanschoonhoven was a most excellent one and deserving special mention in that he certainly saved some if not all of my stock. The indian (Stephan) stayed with him but the boy with the gum boots (Budy) came in late barefooted. We learn from the men that there is quite a settlement at the Melish Cabin now and also received a paper of Aug 8th the latest we have seen. They did not bring my mail over

[pg 106] from Tyonek but it will be there for me on my return. Received a letter from Sergt Mathys informing me that he failed to find Lieut Learnard and also a letter from the latter of Aug 11th which was very satisfactory, as it shows that he has done some good work.

[pg 107] 56th Camp Sept 21, 98. Distance travelled 15. miles
Return Distance 281 "
Total Distance 622 "
Weather a.m. clear.
P.m. "

Broke camp at 8.30 a.m. and followed the blazed trail to the river crossing that I had sent Dillion down to try the lower crossing. He returned in a few minutes reporting the same practicable. Crossed at 9. a.m. ferrying all the men across on the horses. We saved about 1½ miles or more by so doing. Shortly after crossing I met Lee who was out looking for his stock and walked with him as far as the next camp. During this time he informed me of the trip across to The Talquitno. From him I learn much that goes to show that proper efforts were not made by the Sergeant (Mathys) to reach Wasilas cabin as ordered. Too much time was wasted in waiting for clear weather. Found that it was a short six miles to Marshall Creek where Lee & Bagg were in camp and where I originally intended to Camp, but after eating decided to go on to Young creek for the night. Had a good lunch with fruit, bread, beans & bacon. Bagg had cooked all of it and it was all very toothsome but especially the bread & coffee. Again started out at 2.15 P.m. and got into Camp on the Creek at 6 P.m. I found the stock stood it very well and we had plenty of forage to give the stock. Lee turned them loose during the night but they did not find very much to eat, and came into camp for more grain during the night. During the walk from King creek crossing to Camp I had a talk with Bagg and

[pg 108] got from him his story of why the Expedition failed. He also confirms what Lee said as to too much attention being devoted to the weather and too little attention to travelling. The weather is still fine but I have little doubt that we will have a storm in a few days as the moon changes and the sun crosses the equinox tomorrow. The days are getting shorter very rapidly just now and our day light will rapidly diminish but we can make it in to Knik in two days if it becomes desirable or necessary to do so.

I neglected to mention the fact that Lee brought some fruit up that is perfectly fine.

[pg 109] 57th Camp. Sept 22nd 98.

Distance travelled 16 (?) miles

Return distance 297 "

Total distance 638 "

Weather a.m. cloudy

" P.m. Fair. rained in the evening a sprinkle

Camp called at 4. o'clock a.m. & at 6.20. we were on the trail. Found it to be a trifle over 2 miles to King's Cabin, a trifle over 5 miles to the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] Camp. Just 7 miles to Granite creek and a trifle over 10 miles to the lunch place. Went from there to Moose creek 5 3/4 miles - The total distance from Young creek to Camp was 17 miles at least by actual travel but only 15 3/4 by map. The indian boy speared a salmon at the noon camp. It was very red and its entire tail seemed to have disappeared, also most of their fins. This is caused (so Hicks says) by wearing them out on the bars etc in wriggling up streams. Of course they are unfit to eat. This particular one seemed to be a dog salmon.

The trail was very hard all day and the going was good. The only serious impediment to good time was the windfall and the brush on each side of the trail and in it. This brush was principally high bush cranberry and a species of dog wood brush. It (the brush) is not only annoying but seriously interferes with travel. The portion of the trail in the high ground between noon camp and Moose Creek should make very good farming land. The grass grows very thick and as high as one's head. Hicks says this country extends back to the foot hills (about 15 miles) and is perhaps better near the hills.

When we came down the Moose Creek hill found a very substantial cabin built

[pg 110] by the Johnson, Moon et al. party. It (the party) consists of five men who intend to go to the Tanana next Spring and will sleigh their goods up the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] during the winter. They had killed 15 grouse the day before and insisted on my taking supper or dinner with them. I pause to state that I accepted and ate the breasts of about half a dozen. I was ashamed of my capacity and my appetite as well because it seemed to be unappeasible [sic]

[pg 111] 58th Camp. Sept 23rd 98.

Distance travelled 18½ miles

Return distance 315½ "

Total distance 656½ "

Weather a.m. clear.

" - p.m

Camp called at the usual time and struck the trail at 6 a.m. sharp. I had debated quite seriously driving through to Melishis Cabin but as it was a trifle long (about 30 miles) decided to go to "Water Camp" (No 1) and to drive in from there early tomorrow morning. Made it to the "Lakes" at 11.30 a.m. or in five hours and a half of travel. The noon lunch was on "Finger" Lake and while waiting

for lunch I made three exposures. One of Knik Glacier showing valley of the Knik river, the mountains at its head, T 3/4 sec, S.32, bright light, smoky atmosphere. One of the men around the Camp fire and one of the mountains at the head of the Little Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] river, with the last the same conditions as the former. Remained in camp for 3 hours as Mendenhall was slow in coming in and it was necessary that he should have lunch as well as his indian boy who is assisting him.

The trail runs up on the hill at once and the upland like that on the other side of the creek will make very good farming land and all of this being near to and affected by the tides of Knik Inlet results in better climatic conditions. All of the trail to the noon camp except the hill coming out of Moose creek and the crossing of Beaver creek and the one next to the lake was firm & good. I made it just 8 miles to Beaver, 2 miles to the next and 12 miles plus (nearly 13) to the Noon Camp. The afternoon trail was not very good around the lakes and the marsh was worse than when we passed over it. It will be necessary to Corduroy this if it is ever used as a trail for much travel.

[pg 112] A trail that is used much in this country must necessarily get into bad condition from the travel. In the timbered portion, especially in that part that has been much used, the roots, which seem to grow close to the surface are very thick and intertwine so badly that footing is difficult for stock. This was the cause of Daisy's fall on yesterday.

[pg 113] 59th Camp. Millish Cabin. Sept 24th 98. Distance traveled, 10' miles
Return " 325½ "
Total " 666½ "
Weather - clear

rained in the evening

Broke Camp at 605 a.m. with every one anxious to get down to the Millish Cabin, where it was believed our troubles would end. It is certainly the end of our marching for this season in Alaska and right glad I was to realize that it was within a short days March. We pushed along as rapidly as we could with our stock and would have reached the cabin at 10 o'clock very easily if it had not been for at least an hour's delay caused by the "Old Mule" in the swamps. He would give up as soon he sunk at all in the mud and once when left to get out himself waited until we had passed him and then went back towards the Lakes as fast as he could running into the second section of the pack train. He is absolutely worthless being injured internally from packing and being hidebound and mangy besides. He is certainly not worth taking back to the states or wintering this winter. I am told by the men that he has been in the pack train for 17 years and is certainly old enough to have seen that amount of service. I found the trail much improved altho' the swampy ground was still bad to pass over. It is of sufficiently short extent to warrant its being corduroyed without very much expense. Making a permanent trail I have not contemplated from the start as my time would not permit even if so disposed but I did contem-

[pg 114] plate and did find a trail that could be made permanent with the proper amount of work put on it but this need not be a great amount. After getting lunch at the Cabin I took Mendenhall & Lee & went down to the Station to see Palmer in regard to my mail. Found that he was up the river and that Johnson of the A.C. Co. was also away at the Knik. Palmer had sent Nakeeta down after the mail however.

Lee showed me a wild rose in bloom that he picked on the 16th day of September near the Millish Cabin

[pg 115] 60th Camp. Sept 25th 1898.

Distance travelled 6½ miles

Return distance 332 "

Total distance 672 "

Weather clear

"

Broke camp at noon when I started the pack train down with the camp equipage [sic] & bedding etc of the men. Expected Palmer up with his boat to get the grain and such heavy stuff as we could not pack. He did not show up with the tide so borrowed a boat and sent such articles down as I could. Then walked down with Bagg & two men (Canwell and Evans). Found the trail on the flat very easy marching as compared with what I had been doing. Made the distance to the store in less than 2 hours. Found Palmer had not come up because his boat was aground and he did not get her off in time. No mail had come in and it was not expected as the weather was understood to be rough and the winds adverse. It is liable to be in on any tide now. Would like to know what is in store for me from below and especially what will be said about the pack train & its disposition.

[pg 116] Knik Station Sept 26th 98.

Weather a.m. rain

P.m. "

Nothing in sight but to wait during a long dreary day for mail that, not having come in on the morning tide, is certain to be delayed for some hours or until high tide this afternoon. Had Mrs Long Shorty (McConihe) wash a suit of underwear for me so that I could get a bath and it was one of the most refreshing things I have struck. She is also baking some bread for us daily that is simply fine after so much yeast powder bread. Sent the pack train up to Millish's after the balance of the grain and they did not return until late reporting considerable trouble with its slipping and breaking. In the afternoon Naquita came in and I sent up after the mail but found that he did not bring it. On investigation I found that Naquita had presented the written order from my self for this mail and had asked for it twice but was told each time that Johnson had it and would bring it up. He did not come in on that tide and the indian said he was on the Perry so that it is probable that the Perry will come in tomorrow or at least very soon.

[pg 117] Knik Station. Sept 27th 98.

Weather cloudy with sun occasionally

Breaking through

George Palmer wants a map showing my trail. Have promised to send him one but what he wants is a map of Alaska containing the combined work of all the parties this year. Mail has not yet come in and it is nearly high tide. (Later) Tide has turned and no mail for us today. In the afternoon and evening I made a copy of Lee's log or diary which he read to me and I copied in my book in the back. In the evening I met three men who had just come across the Arm. Their names are McGahe, Burke and Hunting. They went up the trail followed by Mendenhall & Kelly up Perry river and said that some of the party would winter in here. They act like men who have struck something and state that they have found something better than \$5.00 diggings. They also said that there was a glacier on this trail which does not correspond with Kelly's report. I mentioned the matter to Kelly who informed me again that he did not have to cross a glacier but that at the head of Raven creek there was a glacier that he avoided by going along side of it on a ledge of rock which he says is practicable for a trail and is certainly suitable for a R.R.

About noon took a picture of Andrew and Naquita together. Also a picture of "Long Shorty" and family. The light

[pg 118] was not specially [sic] good but the sun would cast a shadow and I hope for good results. Also took a snap at Palmer and family.

The Perry does not come in and am getting somewhat anxious about my mail.

[pg 119] Knik Station Sept 28th 98.

Weather a.m. clear

P.m. "

Awoke to find the rain had subsided and that we had a beautiful clear day. I went up to Palmer's and loaded some plates. Had another talk with the men from Raven creek and find that they have great confidence in their claims and intend to push the work as much as possible.

In the afternoon took some pictures of Knik River & Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] Valley. Also a picture of the mouth of Perry river. I had just finished taking these when the Steamer Perry landed with my mail. In it I found a note from Learnard stating that he had sent it by the Perry for satisfactory reasons given.

In this I found instructions to arrange for leaving the stock here during the winter, stating that forage would be sent up for them but evidently written under the impression that I only had five head of stock originally furnished. This will not be enough to winter all of them and it will be necessary to place them at Some point where they can be reached on tide water during the closed season. I had a talk with Lathrop after getting my mail and found that he would bring my stuff up to Knik as late as possible so that

[pg 120] I must wait until I hear from the forage ordered up etc.

On this boat was Mr Jack and his partners Mr Brook & Mr Perry, all of whom we invited to supper with us. Was glad of the opportunity to hear of the results of Mr Edridge's trip up the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] river. Learned that they did not get to the Tanana although to within 30 or 40 miles of this river.

Arranged with Lathrop to take my party to Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] on tomorrow and he says he will start at 6 a.m. which will necessitate an early start.

Did not get much sleep as I had much to do to get ready.

[pg 121] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Sept 29. 98. Weather a.m. clear

P.m. "

Arrived at this place at 9.30 P.m having laid over at Fire Island one tide. We were all ready to start at 6. a.m. or before and about 6.30 Lathrop came down to say that he could not go until next tide but I told him that I would pack my stuff up to his boat in ten minutes whereupon he decided to try it. He could have made it to Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] by 2. P.m. if he could have "bucked" the tide for a short time (an hour or more) but his coal supply would not admit of it and hence we laid over during one tide at Fire Island. Left all of my stock at Knik inlet and with them Corporal Young, the three packers and 3 men (Evans, Powers and Woodworth) with instructions for two of the packers or one packer and a man to take forage up to Moose creek and the remainder of his men to build a cabin on the hill in the woods for themselves and in a suitable place for the stock.

I was much surprised to have the "Colonel" say at breakfast that he wanted to quit for which action he gave as a reason that he did not care to go up the trail with the forage. I told him he had best come with me and I would

[pg 122] fix up his vouchers etc at Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek]. The two men with soldiers will be enough

to take care of the stock during the winter. At Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] we met Learnard and the rest of the party with whom we sat up quite late talking over our experiences. From him (Learnard) we learn that Captain Abercrombie had abandoned his expedition into Copper river and for this action he gives the reason that his presence in Valdez is necessary in order to enable him to take care of the destitute miners who are coming out from the interior.

I also learn that the impression exists that Johnson (I don't know his 1st name) with 8 men on board of his sloop lost his boat and with it his own life & that of all men on board. His dog was found on shore but no trace of his boat that is much overdue at at [sic] Sunrise.

[pg 123] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Sept 30th. 98. Weather a.m. clear
P.m "

Awoke this a.m. with a severe headache from which and my general feelings I am satisfied that I am billious [sic]. I do not care to undertake the trip down with myself in any such condition. I find that I am still suffering severely from cramping of the muscles of my legs in the calves. They have been bothering me in this way for some time and especially during the last 6 or 8 days I was on the trail. It is unquestionably due to wading so much and being wet so generally & continuously for nearly all the time we were on the trail.

I neglected to state that in my mail was a telegram directing me to send Kelly back to report to the Com'd'g General at Vancouver Barracks so that he could be ordered to report to his regiment. He having been appointed a Lieutenant or Captain of the 10th U.S. Volunteers. It is needless to state that Kelly swelled up fully and properly to fit the occasion and on yesterday set up the cigars for every one and would do better if he could.

In the afternoon, Kelly, Learnard, Mendenhall Hicks and self borrowed a boat of Hanmore and went up to Ladd's Station and looked over the place. Failed to find Ladd but saw Harvey and noted all the changes

[pg 124] that had taken place. The Shuitna [i.e. Chuitna] had entirely changed its bed washing out the eyesore buildings of Ladd and causing him to lose all of his boats of value. Harvey puts his loss at \$3000.00 dollars for which I feel very sorry. I think it has improved his place however in that his landing is improved.

[pg 125] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Alaska Oct 1st. 98. Weather a.m. clear
P.m. "

Awoke this a.m without any discomfort from having taken the two "blue pills". Took a dose of rochelle saltz and find that my headache has practically disappeared. My calves are still bothering me and I find it difficult to even walk a short distance. I mounted the pictures Kulp sent me. Then loaded some plates for the 4x5 camera and tried an exposure on Swartz to see if the Camera worked satisfactorily. I then developed this together with a couple dozen films I had taken with Castner's Camera. I was not at all satisfied with the results and shall depend on Learnard's Camera for the remainder of my work that I do not undertake with my 5x7.

I have a sort of picture of the pass through which we came having taken several snaps at it. Promised Mrs Hanmore to take a picture of her son and also of herself and husband. In the discussion between Mr Jack, Mendenhall, Learnard & Jack last evening it was suggested that the two parties may have gone though the same pass but I resisted the idea vigorously and when I showed the picture of it to the Sergeant and to Sergeant Yanert they both stated that they had seen no such mountains which with our information

[pg 126] of the stream we went down satisfies me that we went through separate and distinct passes. It is very nice to be back in permanent Camp but would be glad to be able to go out on the Dora when Kelly goes. At this same time I shall send Mendenhall and Bagg and perhaps some others.

[pg 127]

Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Alaska. Oct 2nd 98. Weather a.m clear
P.m. "

Awoke this a.m. (Sunday) to find the weather bright and clear although quite cold. Intended to go to church but found I had too much on hand to attend. Then too there was no bell to remind us that it was the Sabbath. Had some developing material put up and in the afternoon developed some film taken by Lieut Learnard and some taken by myself with Castner's Camera. Found very poor results from my own work and not very satisfactory from Learnard's. During the forenoon took some exposures of young – (Hanmore's step son) and also of Mr Andrews (Mrs H.'s father). Was lucky enough in taking a picture of a prospector to get a rear view of him that was one in a thousand on account of position assumed by him. In the evening had a short talk with Ladd who had come down to see the Purser of the S.S. Kodat about some funds due Ladd. These funds consist of a balance due Ladd for \$1000.00 worth of furs Ladd sent down to Juneau or Sitka by the S.S. Kodat and the receipts for sale of which the Purser was authorized to receive & return to Ladd. He did the former but forgot and neglected to do the latter. Poor Ladd seems to be fair game for every one with whom he comes in contact. All of which combined with his bad luck in losses from the

[pg 128] elements keeps the poor devil poor. During the day I had a talk with Mr Jack about the navigability of the Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] river and in the evening got a letter from him expressing his views. He is familiar with the attempts made by the two steam launches of Ladd and Col Maher to get up. Also of the attempt of the gasoline launch of Mr Falcon, yet he is satisfied that this river is navigable for properly constructed steam vessels. They must be stern wheelers and have ample power. They must also handle readily & quickly. I am of the same opinion and so is Lieut Learnard.

[pg 129] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Alaska Oct 3rd 98. Weather a.m. clear
P.m. "

A very chilly night last night and the temperature in my tent seemed very low this a.m. The coal we are using and which we get by sending the men down in a boat for it is good enough so that we can keep fire in the sibley stove all night.

Have put in the day with Photography. I took individual photos of all the members of the party who are in Camp and spent the afternoon in developing them.

I must mention the subject of vegetables grown here and which we are now eating. We purchase from Major (?) Mattson potatoes turnip, and peas. The 1st named are not 1st class this year on account of the moisture during the summer and then too they have not really ripened yet and are very watery but the turnip and peas are excellent.

It is getting so chilly in the tent that I must turn in to get warm.

Am busy having a complete list made of the property. Hope to get through in the near future.

Mr Jack and party left this a.m. for the lower Inlet in a sloop to look after their properties recently located.

[pg 130] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Alaska. Oct 4th. 98

Weather am clear

P.m. clear

It was quite cold last night. In the early evening received a notice of a boat coming from below which proved to be unfounded. Found from the development of my negatives that I had to take some others. I gave the Sergeant [Yanert] some experience at this work and also in the development. All of those taken with the new camera were good. I now believe that the official Camera [4x5] will do good work and shall leave it with the Sergeant for the winter.

I decided today to leave Van Schoonhoven in Alaska for the winter as his time will not be out and he is willing, in fact desires, to remain. Six men are none too many to have at the Camp provided the Sergeant does any exploring work as contemplated. The Steamer Perry came in this afternoon about 5. P.m. while I was in the dark room and was bound for Sunrise City for which point she left at 2. a.m. the 5th. She will go down after the mail [meet the mail boat at Homer] immediately on her return to this place on the evening of the 6th.

Lathrop suggested that I go down on the Dora to Homer [provided she brought no mail for me] and meet the excelsior and get my mail there. From this I could determine upon what course to pursue

[Transcribers note: brackets used in the text on this page are in the original text.]

[pg 131] in regard to my stock and at the same time make arrangements with the Excelsior if the situation demanded it. It is a good idea and I think that I shall follow his advice.

I sent the Colonel over to Sunrise as per agreement and promised him that I would settle up with him before I went out of the Country – if I had to borrow the money to do so. He gave orders on me for Palmer's bill. \$14.90. – To Canwell for \$5.00. To Van Schoonhoven \$3.00 and to Hanmore for \$31–. All of which I am to pay and give him the balance.

[pg 132] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Alaska. Oct 5th 98.

Weather a.m. Clear

P.m. Cloudy

We are certainly having remarkable weather. This a.m. Mendenhall, Learnard & Harry went out after grouse and did not return until after we had our lunch but they brought in seven grouse, all killed by the 1st named.

In the forenoon Hicks brought up a Mr Mattson who was with the Eldridge Spurr party going up the Yedno [?] and one of its tributaries to the Kuskokwim and down this stream to the A.C. Co's trading store near its mouth. They were forced to do this in order to procure rations. They lost and ruined about all they had by several times upsetting their canoes. They, as likewise Eldridge, used Peterborough canoes and both Mattson and Jack report against them as being too light and easily injured. Jack also reports against the use of a steel boat similar to the one purchased for use of my party. Coming back to the Spurr party, at the trading station they split up, one party going back up the Kuskokwim and thence across the Portage to the Russian Mission on the Yukon while the other under Mr Spurr himself struck across to the Eastward and is to come up Lakes Illyamna [i.e. Iliamna] & Clark thence over a short portage this Inlet at Tuskatan, while the former party went down the Yukon to St Michaels and from there down by Vessel to Seattle. If Spurr gets

[pg 133] through to Tuskatan as he expects by the 18th Inst. he will have made a most successful trip. We will have the pleasure of travelling down with him in all probability to Seattle and will

learn to know him better. We also learn that The Geological party assigned to White river work succeeded in getting through crossed the portage to The Tanana and from there down to St. Michaels platting to within 400 miles of the mouth of the Tanana.

If it is true that a vessel left St Michael's for Circle City on the 12th of September I have great hopes that Castner will strike a vessel to take him down so that he can get out as soon as I do.

In the afternoon late Mr Monroe came over from the Knik and brought me a letter from Palmer desiring to purchase all the flour and baking powder that I had. He Monroe killed a Moose on Fire Island and brought over the liver, heart and two quarters all of which I managed to get from him. This with the grouse gives us enough fresh meat to carry us through until the Detachment leaves.

I decided that so long as Kelly had been appointed a commissioned officer and had to go through to Vancouver Barracks any way

[pg 134] that I would send the bulk of the Detachment down with him. I have no use for so large a detachment and there is no reason why they should not go to Vancouver Bks and be perfectly comfortable during the time I am forced to wait here where it is liable to become extremely cold and stormy. Accordingly I gave orders to Sergeant Mathys to turn over his accountability to Sergt Yanert and designated the men who should be detailed to go down now holding just enough to handle the stores.

[pg 135] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Alaska Oct 6th. 98.

Weather a.m cloudy

P.m. cloudy

A good sized sea and Turnagain Arm wind started in the day. It has been growing stronger all day and the sea is running high on both flood and ebb. It is not very cold but it is not pleasant as it blew one tent down and had blown so strong that it pulled up about half the pins to my own tent. Miller's boat came up from below and anchored and both it and Palmers boat used by Nakeeta & Monroe dragged their anchors for some distance. Miller's boat finally held while Palmer's was beached by good luck with a very large wave and is probably all right. This afternoon went down to Hanmore's to see him on business and while there met Col Tingle who is here representing a N.Y. Co that is developing a quartz property near Tuscatan. He tells me that he is the resident agent of P.B. Ware in Washington D.C. in the winter season and that he can by speaking to Ware have me sent back here next year. Spoke nicely of the work that he understood that I had accomplished and wanted a copy of my map, which of course I cannot give him.

He told me that his son married Aggie Kelly and that he (the son) was now running a paper in New York. He also knew a great many St. Paul people and I had a very pleasant talk with him. He has a

[pg 136] party of 10 men and will go out on the Dora on her next trip. An indian came up to see me in regard to some bacon & wanted to buy 10 cts worth which of course I refused to sell him but gave him a piece of damaged bacon. Humpy Stephan is the one.

[pg 137] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek], Alaska Oct 7th 98

Weather a.m. Storming

P.m. Cloudy

Shortly after breakfast this morning Major Mattson came up and asked Mr Learnard if he could get some men to go down to the lower village with him to help him with some work. The matter

being referred to me I told him that I had no objection but would not order the men to do such work. I learned that Miller's boat had run ashore and was a wreck. He had an Englishman (a tourist) on board who was going out on the next boat. I missed this boat when I first got up in the morning but upon inquiry understood that no special damage had been done him or his boat. Later in the day I learned definitely that all on board had gone to bed, were asleep and did not know when their anchor chain parted and were aroused only after washing ashore and the water came through the hatches.

Col Tingle came up with his son to get some developing material from me as he (the son) had promised to try and save some plates for the Englishman, all of whose things had been thoroughly soaked. I of course let him have what I could spare. I afterwards learned that the son saved a very fair proportion of the plates although they were badly watersoaked by seawater. In the evening Mellish

[pg 138] came up to see me in regard to paying him rent for his cabin during the summer. I told him that I had agreed to pay no rent but he first told me he thought it was worth \$10.00 per month. I not only told him that I would not pay him any rent but that I would see that the trail did not start from his cabin. If I start from Portage Bay as I now hope to I can readily manage this part of the matter and think that I can any way. From Melish I learn all the facts in regard to the loss of Miller's boat and according to his story Miller has lost about all of his supply of provisions for the winter. I also learn from other sources that Miller had just about finished paying for his boat (perhaps not all paid for) and it seems to be pretty hard on him but his carelessness in permitting every one on board to go to sleep under the circumstances was entirely inexcusable. This is the man who is married to an indian woman who is said to be an exceptionally promising & bright one but who has been so much abused and debased by Miller that she is not now of a very high type. It is certainly a great subject for thought viz: That an American citizen will drag down to

[pg 139] a lower depth than her natural state a woman of an uncivilized tribe –

It is probably fortunate for her that he was induced by Mellish to leave her at the Knik but the chances are that she might have saved the boat had she been on board. In the afternoon Ladd sent down his cubs (3 of them) and came down himself later in Company with Harvey and Mr Smith. The latter gave us some points in photography and casually mentioned some "finds" he had made up in the Chaniltno Country. We had Ladd and Smith to dinner with us.

[pg 140] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Alaska. October 8th 98

Weather a.m. clear

P.m. clear

shower in evening

This a.m. Shortly after breakfast young Mr Tingle came up and brought me some negatives he had developed that were beauties. Two were of a rock at Snug Harbor (one in the shade and one in the sunlight from which he told me that I could take some prints and which I immediately proceeded to do availing myself of a very fair sun. I also took some of myself and some of Mendenhall & others. He (Young Tingle) also showed me how to vignette in a rough sort of way but the most important discovery was of the method of printing in which we used tracing linen instead of tissue paper. In the afternoon we took two sittings – standing rather – of Mr. & Mrs. Hanmore. In development we found that the half second exposure was better than the full second which shows a difference in the rapidity of the plates. I was using "Orthochromatic plates instead

of Suds 27. for the 1st time.

In the forenoon sent the men down after coal of which they brought up a boat load and came near swamping their boat.

Once while in Colonel Tingle's wareroom quarters the Englishman came

[pg 141] in to look at his negatives and I found him to be the typical English Tourist. He looked at me for a moment and placing his hand on my shoulder exclaimed "Oh! Ah! by the way. Ah! Arn't [sic] you a pall [sic] of Ah! let me see: Abercrombie," to which I assented when he said "I came up on the boat with him in the same state room. He was quite cheerful notwithstanding his losses and has evidently seen a great deal of the world.

I had a talk with Ladd in regard to the trouble he had with the Purser of the Kodat and briefly the facts are that Ladd needing some money sent some furs – about 750.00 worth – to the bank at Juneau by the Steamer Kodat that he knew was going there and directed the bank to send back \$400.00 by the purser – Ladd being in Sunrise when he returned did not see him but he was informed by his men that the purser said that the bank was to send the money up by mail. This seemed strange but when he (Ladd) saw him next time and inquired about it he was again informed that such was the case altho Ladd had written the bank in the meantime and had a letter from them (the bank) informing him that they had turned the money over to the Purser

[pg 142] as per instructions. He (the Purser) paid Ladd at this subsequent interview the full amount due him and it is rumored that he used some money he had collected for through passage from Sunrise City to Seattle and which he failed to turn over to the master of the sailing vessel that was to take them down – I met some men from Hope City this a.m. who were approached to buy a passage but declined to pay more than a certain amount down and hence they did not go and still have their passage money. I saw some nuggets – about 3 oz – that these men had taken from Bear creek and very pretty gold it is indeed. They have sold out a 3/4th s interest in their claims in which they expect to set up and work a hydraulic plant.

I also learned from Ladd a new story about Mrs W. of Sunrise. It seems that she insisted on dropping Mr W. and taking up with Mr Smith whom she regarded as the very bright and particular mining genius of this country. Mr W. is away prospecting and this man Smith has been running things with a high hand besides living in open adultery with Mrs W. – Naturally people have been gradually drawing away from them and from the hotel and

[pg 143] they are becoming more and more left to their own devices. Naturally they look and take to the bottle that cheers and their over indulgences are becoming more and more frequent. She, poor fool, is dropping with lightening rapidity to the bottom of the ladder while he is beginning to show up in his true colors. A short time since he, when on a spree with her, managed to get her thoroughly drunk after which he pulled off all her clothes, left her in the saloon, went out and rang a bell, attracted a crowd that he dragged in to look at her shame. He is of course the lowest of the lot but those whose idle curiosity permitted them to be spectators, really participators, of such a scene without avenging the poor helpless creature cannot be much if any better than he is. The latest thing I have heard of him is that some miners lost stuff (provisions) from their cash [sic] constantly and could not locate the person taking until some rice was missing the sack containing this article happened to have a hole in it and the rice not being a reasoning although a cultivated article insisted on spreading itself along the trail which led directly to Smith's Cache. A miners meeting was held in Sunrise to ascertain why this rice

the Agent for many years past of the A.C. Co at Kodiak and is going down to take a vacation. Talks of quitting there entirely but this is very questionable as he has been too long at the business and too long in Alaska to be contented below. I found Mrs W. to be a very pleasant appearing woman. Every one seems interested in my work and speak nicely of the results accomplished.

[pg 148] Homer Alaska. Oct 10th 98

Weather am clear

P.m. clear.

Arrived at this place at 3.30 a.m. after a most tranquil and pleasant passage. Was awakened by the Steamers whistle in announcing our arrival and went on board of the Perry that was lying at anchor in the bay at Homer. I at once turned in and had a nice nap until aroused for breakfast, which was fine consisting of Moose meat and fried eggs both of which as well as the oatmeal & toast were fine especially the toast.

I found one passenger on board, Miss Blanche Monroe, usually known as Blanche. I went on shore after breakfast and met Dr ~~Huggins~~ also a Mr Prole & a Mr Field. The last named is said to be worth \$75,000.00 which is in the hands of his sisters & from which he receives an allowance. His trouble is that he crooks his elbow too much and the family is much pleased that he consented to come to Alaska. He was full when I met him or rather when he blew into the door & commenced a conversation with me by asking me to have a glass of some thing to drink. The Dr does not enjoy the most delightful character I have since learned as he brought some whiskey around the horn that was originally good but which began to run short & he doctored it to the serious detriment of all those who purchase it and consume it. After being ashore for

[pg 149] a time we pulled up to the “coal banks” to take on coal and spent the remainder of the day there taking on coal of which they mined and put on board about 12 tons. This coal is about 10 to 12 miles from Homer or just outside of Coal Bay. It was located some years since by a Mr Cooper for C.P. Huntington and a considerable quantity of it was taken out to test it. Apparently of very good quality (bituminous) and lies in layers or strata about 15 inches to 3 feet in thickness or depth, and a number of these strata are in sight at different elevations from the top of the bluff to the bottom and even below tide level. In fact the best coal is taken out of a strata that is only uncovered by long run outs of the tide. This coal seems to work splendidly in the Perry and certain other steamers that use it but like the coal near Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] is too young and makes too much ashe. This is a much better coal however than any I have thus far seen in the Inlet. It is the best coal and easiest to mine and will someday possess a value but not for shipment in all probability but simply for The Shipping etc in the Inlet.

While taking on this coal a small boat (dory) came down the Inlet & stopped. Aboard of it was Mr Christianson who is in charge of the plant at Anchor Point. This evening

[150] I had a talk with him about arrangements to be made for wintering my outfit at his place. He has accommodations for about 15 animals but could easily fix up for more and can house my men and Stores – He is to give me his answer tomorrow morning. I took some negatives – exposures – of the coal vein and members of the crew of the Perry mining it. The one taken of the vein at close range should be a good one.

Now Homer is a Post Office situated in Coal Bay. I counted on the beach about 7 houses and a tent. Of course one of these is a hotel. They are all on a spit – We have run back and are now anchored there – that runs well out into the bay. There is no water in the place and no wood –

plenty of coal of coarse [sic] – and worse than all the tides when high must and actually do cover the entire spit for a depth of a foot or more and should the weather be rough would most likely carry away or severely deal with some of the houses. Yet these people seem to think there is almost a certainty of a town being built up here. They say that water can easily be brought in and that the question of the tides is a small matter. Just why they have so much faith in the place

[pg 151] I have been unable thus far to ascertain, but will do so tomorrow.

The plans for tomorrow are to go to the coal banks if the weather permits. After taking on coal to go to Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia] – about 16 miles – for water and where I shall go because I am anxious to see as much as possible of the country. There are two Stores at that place and I can probably pick up something in the way of curios to take back with me. But it is time to turn in.

[pg 152] Homer Alaska Oct 11th 98

Weather am clear

P.m. clear

Awoke this A.m. to find it quite cool and yet as soon as the sun came up it was warmer and during the day it turned out to be very pleasant. Went ashore with Lathrop and took a few snaps. Among these a view of Homer. A picture of Field and his outfit. And one of the man and woman in man's apparel. While down at Dr. Gunning's office Lathrop came in and after some discussion about other topics the question of a Transit in the Dr's possession came up. This transit was placed in the Drs care by Lathrop sometime since. In the meantime Mr Prole who represents the Co whose goods were sold by the negro manager to Lathrop directs ~~Lathrop~~ the Dr through an attorney to hold this transit until title to same is determined by a suit to be instituted. Lathrop gets very angry and goes for Mr Prole whom he accuses of double dealing and informs him that he intends to take the instrument to Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia] where he will place it in the hands of some one until title to same is determined. The Dr submitted the attorneys paper to me and asked my opinion as to its effect when I told him him [sic] that it possessed no legal significance whatever. This is part of the property secured

[pg 153] by Lathrop from a negro who was left in charge of a stock of goods belonging to some Company. This stock comprised all sorts of goods such as chickens, hogs, cattle dry goods, groceries etc etc, probably about 2 to 3 thousand dollars worth that Lathrop bought for less than \$200.00.

This transit seems to be one article that some question exists concerning the right of the negro to sell and Lathrop said that he would turn it over to the owner whenever such proved to be the case.

Shortly after returning to the boat Lathrop was telling me of the woes of a young girl who has been cooking for Dr Gunnings outfit since early May last. She asked the Doctor for pay sometime since and was told by him that he owed her nothing altho she has done all the cooking for as many as 35 people all summer. Lathrop says that he will take an assignment of her claim and collect it himself. I do not imagine he will have much trouble in doing this as the festive Doctor is vulnerable to a degree. He has been selling whiskey to any one who wanted it and that too without a license. This with some other things might induce him to change his

[pg 154] mind as to the young girl having done any work. It seems that when she asked him for some money he told her that she hadn't done anything, that she had never been over to clean up his office but that if she would remain up here during the winter he would put her on a salary

next year. Lathrop thinks the law will imply a contract since she had preformed the work and it may be so but I very much doubt it.

I understand Mr Buckley is in Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia] waiting to go up in the Perry to Sunrise. This afternoon we again ran up to the coal veins and took on coal while I took a nap. The breakers gave the vessel a pronounced motion that lulled me to sleep. I find my appetite is too vigorous and I must control it somewhat before I sail for Seattle. The weather is so fine that I am thoroughly enjoying my rest after my visit to the interior.

We are billed for 6. o'clock breakfast tomorrow so that I must get to bed in due course Every one else on board is already snoring after their labors.

I neglected to mention that one of the men helping to take on coal for Lathrop surprised me very much this a.m. by

[155] giving me an arrow that he said he got in Patagonia. It is pointed with a transparent stone that he says is intended to penetrate the body and then break off. I do not think it is poisonous.

Shall try to pick up some curios at the stores in Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia] where tourists do not often come especially shall I look for some baskets for the Madam, as she is specially anxious to collect some of these and Mr Jack is the only man I have thus far seen that seems to appreciate the value of these. Of course these people are nearer civilization and probably are better posted as to values.

[pg 156] Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia] Oct 12th 98.

Weather a.m. clear
P.m. "

It causes constant comment from Capt Lathrop that the weather remains perfect, and more so than at any time since he has been running in this inlet. We laid at anchor near the coal banks all night and commenced taking on coal in good season this a.m. which work we finished at a little before noon when we pulled anchor and started for this place. Met Mr Block the agent of the N.A.C. Co and Mr Smith agent of the N.A.C. Co. Both of them are grand Army men and Mr B. is well posted on Army matters and the older officers especially. Had quite a talk with him about the conduct of the war etc etc. He has raised a large family. Is the father of about 7 girls 3 or 4 of whom are married and the others are off at school. He was an old Sergeant of Artillery during the war. Came to Sitka after the war closed and when his time was out remained in this territory becoming the agent of the A.C. Co. which position he has filled for 26 years. He lives a lonely sort of life, has a native woman do his cooking for him and seems quite a lonely old man. Is of German descent and speaking of Germany's attitude said

[pg 157] "to hell with Germany" but admitted that he still had some feeling for the mother country. I did not see very much of Mr Smith but will try to have a talk with him in the morning so as to get better acquainted. Was disappointed to find no curios worth taking down with me except some arrows that were too expensive for me. The indians asked more than the store – i.e. \$1.00 each. I was told by a young boy that they had been selling them for 25cts each and hence I would not take any.

I also met Mr Paul Buckley who is to go up with us and was much surprised to hear him say that he thought of going out this Fall. He is a tall well muscled man with a great amount of determination and will power that he uses to his own best advantage. He looks to be absolutely honest and expects others to be the same.

Am glad I shall have the pleasure of his Company all the way up and that he will go out of

Alaska the coming season. I can, after seeing him, very readily understand how it is that he became and in fact now is the leader of the men associated with him.

Was much amused when we went to turn into our joint berth I told him that

[158] I very much hoped that I should not annoy him in case I snored to which he replied that he could stand that and hoped on his part that I would not be annoyed if I heard him singing in his sleep and then proceeded to inform me that he had from childhood talked and sung in his sleep. When he mentioned it I remembered that Castner mentioned this about him when on his trip to Sunrise

In conversation with him I learned that the mines or claims located by his party this season are in Port Dick Inlet which is just across the Peninsula from Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia] and not very far although it required two full tides to go around by water. They have a low grade quartz – for milling in immense deposits or veins – from 20 to 70 feet wide – that averages something over \$6.00 per ton He showed me how it laid and I was glad to learn that he had located Jack and Hicks a joint claim on an extension.

While lying at Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia] he noted a bluff on the inlet that showed mineral stain that he went up and examined. By blasting off some he uncovered a ledge or vein 20 ft wide that certainly

[pg 159] looks like pretty good ore. This bold mineral stained bluff has been lying or rather standing exposed to the gaze of every passer by for the past 20 years – I think this bay has been occupied fully this length of time – and yet no one has taken the trouble to walk half a mile to examine it. It is such discoveries as this that pan out to be so remarkably rich. I neglected to state that the assays showed silver and gold & copper in paying quantities – Just as I had finished the above Lathrop commenced to inform me that he had heard the conversation between Mr B and myself in regard to the location made at Saldovia [i.e. Seldovia]. The true story from him is that Mr John Smith of the N.A.C. Co. located this property last Summer with the crew of the steamer “Alton.” This steamer had anchored opposite this ledge and had sent ashore for rock for ballast. They were interested in this rock and interested Mr Smith who was very anxious to have 3 blasts made so as to uncover the ledge – He requested Buckley to do this and gave him a half interest. The crew of the steamer “Alton” were to were to [sic] return the following July (1898) but were all lost and the location then made was torn down and a new location made by Messrs B. & S. As to

[pg 160] what are the rights of the heirs of the members of that crew “Quim Iabe”.

[pg 161] Homer Alaska Oct 13th 1898

Weather a.m. clear

P.m. "

The weather continues clear and beautiful altho' we found it very cold during the night and ice was found on the water that was quite thick. While performing my toilet we observed a steamer which proved to be the Wolcott passing to Westward showing conclusively that she had disregarded my request for an interview. It was of no avail to worry and the only thing to do was to wait until I could see my mail. After breakfast the Perry took on fresh water and about 11. a.m. we sailed for this place where we arrived at 2. P.m. to find that the Wolcott had not waited for the mail, but had come on up without it; that she had brought some grain (122 sax) but no hay; the same being brought from Seattle by the Excelsior and that the Excelsior had returned to

Sitka for this mail. I was sorely disappointed all around. Abercrombie informed me that he had constructed stables at Valdez and could accommodate my stock and Capt'n Humphrey quoted \$20.00 per head for transporting them over to Valdez but I found that I could get them to Anchor Point where I could secure good stabling and at a cost of \$1.00 per head per month plus the cost of the lumber to repair the stalls. This latter sum not to Exceed \$60.00 or 3000' of lumber.

[pg 162] This will make the cost of wintering not to exceed \$8. or \$9 per head and includes quarters for the men with storage for the stores – I will thus save more than \$20.00 per head on the stock.

In the afternoon Lathrop came to me with the information that he intended to collect the wages due a Miss Clemmons from a Mining Syndicate whose vice president and local manager is a Dr Gunning. I was asked to assist but declined. I did volunteer the advice that a regular miners meeting be called and that the parties be brought before it to make their statements. As talk of a hanging bee was talked of I suggested moderation. A very enthusiastic and determined miner by the name of Page went into the meeting with a rope over his shoulder suggestive of a nectie party. The result of it all was that I was asked to draft the result of the meeting and when I came in to do this I found that there was not yet a complete understanding. I immediately told them that I would not be a party to the thing in any way and immediately withdrew until the affair was settled. I was all submitted to a committee of six selected 3 each by the parties interested.

[pg 163] The committee of six agreed that her services were reasonably worth 50.00 per month and the time of service from May 1st 98 to Oct 12th 98, or in round numbers \$270.00, of which \$35.00 was to be paid in cash and the balance or \$235.00 was to be paid in the shape of an order on the proper officer of the Company at the home office in Seattle. The report of the Committee was drawn up and signed by the committee in duplicate. These were then signed as accepted by the parties. The order was signed by the Dr and the receipt for \$35.00 was signed by Miss Clemmons. I was glad to get the job off of my hands and get back to the boat where supper was over and get to bed as I was tired. We took on board a young man with his wife and baby two weeks old, (their first), whom Lathrop had agreed to take to Coal Camp a distance of about twelve miles, but since it was too dark to see we had to lie at anchor until daylight the following morning. They were both without experience and she was too weak and sick to make such a trip. She may have to pay for this yet altho' I hope not. I learned from the men at the Spit that the Wolcott did not wait for the mail at Sitka and the consequence was that

[pg 164] the mail I should have received did not arrive and I am badly at sea.

[pg 165] S.S. Perry Oct 14th 98.

Weather am clear

P.m. clear.

Our beautiful weather continues and we all hope for about ten days more of it.

We landed the young married couple at Coal Bay about 9 a.m. and returned to Homer about noon. Took on freight and passengers and started for Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] via Kenai, at which latter place we will leave a passenger for Humphrey. I left a note for Captain Humphrey in which I told him about the Wolcott not stopping to see me and also about the grain having been discharged below high water mark. This grain was in very poor condition at best as many of the sacks were badly torn and leaking. Whether this was due to improper sacking or to improper handling in transit it is impossible for me to say. The receipt of the Transportation Company

shows it to have been in good order and condition.

Nothing important transpired except that I made a contract with Mr Julius Christiansen for the stabling of my animals and storing of my goods at the rate of One dollar per head per month and in addition to pay for the lumber used in making the buildings habitable for the stock not to exceed 3000' of lumber at \$20.00 per thousand.

We took on board as a passenger the young lady (Miss Clemons) in regard

[pg 166] to whom the miners meeting was held in Homer. She is a strong vigorous woman who claims to be a dressmaker but who is strong enough to do all the cooking for 35 men. She certainly looks none the worse for her summer's work.

I had a long talk with some parties who are just from Orca and Valdez. From one of them (Mr) I learn that Lieut Lowe went into the interior with 14 horses and about six men starting about the 1st of August or a little before. It is understood and believed that he went through to the Yukon. This man also said that Captain Abercrombie went in with about 16 head of stock and went through to the Tanana being at the Konsina river [i.e. Tiel River] (100 miles from Valdez) on August 20th, where he remained for four or five days in order to be present and assist in the formation of a townsite. In short that he went through to the Tanana and returned to Orca. That he abandoned all of his stock on account of having lost his provisions and came down the Copper River in a boat landing at Eyack [i.e. Eyak]. This does not seem possible since it must be at least 200 miles

[pg 167] from the mouth of the Konsina [i.e. Tiel River] to the Copper Tanana or 500 miles for the round trip (400 for the stock), which would require 30 days hard travelling and to be on the go all the time. I was at least 100 miles North of his location on the same date (Aug 20th) and averaged 15 miles per day. This man also informed me that Some men came into Valdez a few days since reporting that they came from the interior without crossing a glacier and that it only required three days to make this trip. I told him that I did not believe any such yarn and he admitted that he did not himself from what he knew of the country and from what the indians all say in regard to it. I have not learned who and what my informant is further than that he is going into Sunrise City for the winter and he may be giving me a story for some purpose – I asked him about people coming out, and he told me with all frankness that no one had found anything. That large numbers of them were coming out and every day brought in a new lot. That Abercrombie was working them on some government stables and had sent a number of them out of the country. His information on all this strikes me as being too accurate and

[pg 168] therefore not worthy of full credence. I will have another and fuller talk with him tomorrow. From what he tells me I gather that Captain has not used anything like all of his stock for packing purposes but if he can show the amount of work that this man gives him credit for he will pull through all right and get more credit than I will. He is certainly smooth and must feel reasonably sure of himself or else he wishes something from me or he would not volunteer the use of this stable after what has passed in regard to stock. I am anxious to know what he will have to say when we meet over there, assuming that we will meet.

It is very cold outside tonight and we will almost certainly have a frost of some magnitude.

Some men from Valdez came over to Port Dick with a seven months outfit. This is the place where Buckley's claims are located and these parties have located extensions on what he calls "Independence Lead".

[pg 169] Kenai. Oct 15th 98

Weather a.m. Clear

P.M. Clear.

Although the weather was clear and cold when we arrived at this Port at 3. a.m. this date when we were ready to proceed on our journey it was evident that it was not wise to do so as there was a strong Northeaster blowing down the Inlet so that even though we arrived at Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] we could not get ashore. The Captain after putting off his passenger and freight decided to wait until evening and at tea the Skipper informed us that the mercury was still falling in the glass. After lunch all hands went ashore and up to the Russian village which is to the left while the indian village and the cannery are to the right. We had arranged for a "Bagnio" Russian bath in a bath house belonging to a Mr Pedersen who is married to a native Russian woman. In this one we found a narrow petitioned off place for dressing. This communicates with another room about 8'x10' in which is a ~~bl~~ brick foundation with a large pot of water under which is placed the fire that is kept up until all the brick are very hot. Then on the further end of the furnace is a sort of oven open at one end and into which hot water is thrown. This is

[pg 170] immediately converted into steam and pours out into the room. We take water in an ordinary tub with which we soap ourselves thoroughly, then wash and again wash with clean water. After which we again enter the dressing room, cool off gradually and go to a moderately warm room until we are thoroughly cooled off. After which we came back to the boat. The only trouble is that we are liable to catch cold and against which we take all the foregoing precautions. I found that I was dirtier even than I anticipated. I like such baths very much. Met a number of people that I have heard of. Mr Bogart agent of the A.C. Co. Ryan, who is in charge of the P.S.W. Co's Cannery, "Frenchy" or Vion, E.A. White of Sunrise who has been up the Kenai river with Ed Bom almost to its head but who did not find anything. He now says he found native quick silver in panning. This I know nothing about but it seems improbable to me. Mr Pedersen told us that he was anxious to take out his papers as a citizen and wanted to know how he should proceed. I told him to write a letter to the Adjutant

[pg 171] General of the State (Territory of Alaska) asking for the necessary papers to be sent to him and advising him that I would write such a letter for him. Found when we got through with our bath etc that did not have time to write such letter but told him that I would get the necessary papers sent to him. His name is Mikkel Michael Pedersen. Born in Denmark. Nov 26. 1858 Came to America – arriving at San Francisco Cal – Jul 4th 1876. and to Alaska in 1889. Spent all of his time since 1876 ~~since~~ in California, Oregon and Alaska. I married to a Russian woman native of Alaska and has been a fisherman all the time. Cannot go down during the summer season to take out papers as he is busy fishing and in the winter season he cannot go down without leaving his family all winter. His address is Kenai c/o Alaska Com. Co.

In conversation with Buckley this evening he told me that he made a report two years since in which he stated that the only practicable route into the interior of Alaska was or would be via the Knik. I learn from him that he sent this statement to 3 papers in San Francisco to be published. He promises to try to

[pg 172] secure a copy of it for me. He will also give me a letter in regard to the navigability of the Sushitna [i.e. Susitna] river. He will make the summer & winter trip with me next year in case I wish him to do so. Am very much in hopes that he will go out this winter as he will be

available for reference in case we need to do so for any reason. Now in regard to Kenai – It is a very old Russian settlement. There is located here establishments by the A.P. Co. A.C. Co. and P.S.W. Co. also an indian & Russian settlement. Mr Bogart of the A.C. Co. informed me that he had gone into some very old graves this summer and had found some baskets and hats in a good state of preservation and of a style that the present inhabitants did not know how to make. That these will shed water and are stained the natural color. He promised to collect some for me by next season.

I secured two cub robes from him and a bidarkii (toy) for one of the Children. He had no other curios of any kind, as he had shipped every thing down to Frisco.

It is now nearly midnight and so far as I can ascertain there is

[pg 173] not much chance of the wind abating. Altho' I am very much in hopes that we will pull out of the river and up on this tide. I am anxious now to catch the S.S. Excelsior if it is in any way possible to do so but we cannot do so if we are delayed in this way by adverse winds.

[pg 174] Kenai Oct 16th

Weather a.m. cloudy & windy

P.m. raining & "

The spell has been broken at last and it now looks as though it will keep us in this place for some time. At 11. a.m. we tried to steer out into the Inlet and get up but it proved to be too rough so we steered back & cast anchor at the Salt house at Knai [i.e. Kenai]. When we had eaten lunch we again went up to the Russian village and from the store I purchased two Camalinkas and a cap made of beaver and land otter for which I paid only \$1.00. Being made by the natives I found it very much of a curio and very cheap. The Camalinkas were being sold at half price. I called on Mr Bogart A.C. Co's agent in his house & found he was a Shriner from Frisco. We had a very pleasant time running his gramophone, making it render all of his tunes for him.

He mentioned several of his family who are in the Navy & Army & desired me to call on them if I went to Frisco. From him and others I learned that in this vicinity there were about 150 indians and Russians. And at Kusiloff about as many more. The rumor got abroad that we had an indian dance that we could attend in the evening at the Chief's house. So that after we had gotten supper we went to Chief Stephan's cabin under

[pg 175] the escort of Mr Ryan but when we arrived we found that no dance was in progress or likely to be. The reason for this was that so many of the men had gotten hold of whiskey and practically all of the white men were intoxicated. As a result the indian women took fright and would not attend. They say that when the men are drunk (either natives or whites) the women manage to hide as soon as possible. The reason of course is that they are more than liable to be badly beaten without any just cause. I had quite a long talk with the old Chief through two interpreters (Ryan and an Indian). What was said was put into Russian and then into indian and the reverse coming to me of course in English. I learned that Stephan had been confirmed as Chief by Army officers who were stationed here many years since and that he is now 90 years of age and being too old to exercise authority he has transmitted his scepter to his son who in turn has made a second chief of another because he is not around very much, and also because he and the priest do not get along very well together. The Priests manage to appoint or at least assume to appoint Chiefs for all the coast tribes. They are still hostile to the

[pg 176] Americans and do all in their power to prevent the indians from learning to speak

American. Strange as it may seem the indians and especially the women are as a rule opposed to having white men learn to talk indian & manage to talk with them in Russian. This is true even where they are married to & living with white men. But to return to the Chief – He informed that he had been duly appointed as Chief by Army Officers many years since. That he was glad to see Americans coming into the Country and was much flattered and pleased that I had called on him. That he wanted his people to learn American ways etc. I then told him that when I went down I intended to ask that schools be established at different places up here in this Inlet and especially at Kenai. That I would like to see all of his people learn to speak American so that they could get along with White men who are coming into the Country. He seemed much pleased with what had been said and in his final statements to me he turned his side toward me so that I could readily see all that he did. He then looked reverently heavenward, crossed himself twice and then turned to me again stating

[177] his most profound gratitude at my having called on him etc and when he saw that it was interpreted to me he retired to his couch and laid himself down – He certainly was a most picturesque object when he turned his eyes heavenward – Although not a large man he wore a long grey beard and his hair is very grey. He is considerably stooped from his advanced age and he evidently has a full realization of the fact that his stay on earth is limited since he said that he was too old to pay any attention to churches of any kind. He made this allusion to his not caring about denominational churches when I told him that no restraint would be placed upon them with respect to their religious worship. He replied that “all churches were the same to him now and that he was too old to care for any”. After this interview I went over to call on the Chief (Stephan’s son) but he was absent and I only saw the 2nd Chief who impressed me as possessing but mediocre ability of any kind. In his house ~~were~~ was assembled some women and children about a dozen in all – parts of four or five families. One young girl (about 16) was mixing up some bread in a wooden water bucket stirring it with a paddle

[pg 178] and was being assisted by a youngster about 7 or 8 years of age who sat upon his haunches and poured in the floor with a horn spoon. I tried to ascertain if the 2nd Chief was interested in schools etc but could not get much out of him as he is an appointee of the Church and naturally not specially favorably disposed toward Americans.

Mr Ryan told me that he would get a bear Robe for me if the boat remained over until morning which of course I shall probably do. Why he should interest himself in this way I do not understand.

[pg 179] Oct 17th – 98 –

Weather a.m. raining
P.m. cloudy.

When I awoke this a.m. I did not find it as stormy as on the day before and was very much relieved when the Captain said we could get to Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] tonight. As we could not get out of the river until about mid day (11. a.m.) Buckley and self decided to go up to the Canneries and look them over. Before reaching them we met Ryan going up to the Russian Village after some men he has employed and whom he knew had been intoxicated on yesterday. The Cannery of the Alaska Packing Co at this place has not been used for two years but seems to be in good condition. That of the P.S.W. Co is being propped up on account of the foundation giving away. Saw the entire lay out including the mess houses and Mrs Ryan the native (indian) woman who is so well known in the Inlet as Ryan’s Kluchman. She is small rather light colored

and still quite young to have gained such a reputation as she possesses.

We returned to the boat at 10.45. a.m. and at 11. a.m. we steamed out of the river and are well on the way to Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] having just stopped at Nakiska No. 2. [i.e. Nikishka Number Two] or McKinley to deliver some mail. This place now called McKinley is a town site and mining syndicate scheme. If gold is their object I am told there is none to

[pg 180] be found there as some will be found there will probably ascertain later on to their sorrow. I am told and believe it is another swindle similar to and on the same general lines as the "M...a-Alaska Gold Mining Co" of Homer Alaska.

We arrived a [sic] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] shortly after 5. P.m. to find every one wondering if the Perry had sunk. After submitting the question of the stock to the party (Hicks Learnard and Sergeant Yannert) we agreed that it would be both dangerous and unwise to try to ship them out on board the Perry. That it would be impracticable to ship them across to Portage Bay overland in view of the fact that there is no trail cut and that the only thing to do was to leave them at Knik Station getting whatever forage can be procured at Sunrise City and trusting to the securing of some vessel to bring the necessary amount of hay and grain in as far as Fire Island during the early part of next month. Accordingly I sent Lieut Learnard to Sunrise with instructions to purchase the hay and grain available and ship it out on the Perry. I left what Forage (oats) I had on board of the Perry. Harry Swartz wants his shot gun & some heavy ammunition in the

[pg 181] Spring – The Sergeant was in favor of transferring to the Beluga Flats but this was impracticable. Hicks informed me today that he had decided to remain in Alaska this winter. I am sorry to learn that Buckley is not going below – He asked me and I promised to call on his mother and sister in Chicago this winter and I also promised him to carry down anything for him that he wished to send down. He spoke of some gold dust or nuggets that he would like me to take down.

Coming back to the question of the animals I will close this chapter by wondering why it is that so little regard or attention is paid to the stock in my charge. Not even rough forage for the five animals that were originally sent me. Will this cause any annoyance or inconvenience if I make inquiry in regard to the whole matter. Arranged with Buckley to get petition for mail service from Hope & Sunrise cities, also for copy of his letter to the papers two years since, and for a letter in regard to navigability of the Sushitna [i.e. Susitna] river.

[pg 182] Oct 18. 98 Weather am Cloudy
Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Alaska. P.M. "

Thos Bedale and Albert F. Palmeter came up here with Charles Loophole of East Boston Mass. Landed in Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] on May 1st 98. via S.S. Alliance, on same boat as the Rex party. Went up the Sushitna to Indian Creek. Came back down to the Store. Made another trip up and damaged all their stores. Left 4 of the party at Indian Creek, one man went out with the Dora and these two applied for transportation out. I learned that Bedale (an Englishman) had a time deposit for \$200.00 on a Canadian Bank So I told him he could use it to get out of the country with and that he could take his friend with him. I am satisfied they are not very much in need but in absence of proof that is not obtainable I told them I would give them grub enough to last them until they could catch a boat out of the Country. I have not been able to do very much today but have put in the time in arranging my things to leave the Country.

I have practically packed my trunk. I also had Castner's box opened and the sack containing his

things on the trail put into this box – I took his grip

[pg 183] out of his trunk and will use it on the road down and put into this trunk of my own things. Three (3) bear skins, two (2) woolen blankets army – Also Two (2) prs of German sox (2) which I think that I am accountable for – I shall also put into this trunk one bear skin belonging to Learnard if possible.

This morning at breakfast Mr John Madison asked Swarz to write a letter for him and I agreed to do it instead. He wanted to reply to a letter requesting to know the terms on which he was wiling [sic] to locate some placer ground. He only made one proposition which was to retain a quarter non-assessible [sic] interest and to be furnished with \$1000.00 for expenses of locating and prospecting.

During a conversation he told me that he knew of a ledge of sulphites that was very fine and that I could say to Hicks in connection with it that if he would locate him a claim he would tell him just how to get it. That it was in salt water that vessels could run right up to. He also wished me to say to Hicks that the place he spoke of below was conglomerate containing free gold and that it was 2000' feet high – that he wanted

[pg 184] him to locate a claim on it for him. Now the only question on my own mind about Mr Madison is, Does he possess sufficient Knowledge of gold bearing rock to enable him to determine any where within a reasonable approximation of its value? He is so enthusiastic in regard to the value of the placer proposition that he says is likely to prove to be a 2nd Klondike that I am somewhat afraid of him. Think a conversation with Hicks about him will probably throw some light on the gentleman. In the mean time I can wait until Hicks returns

This afternoon Mr Smith came down from Ladd's Station and brought with him some views which I am glad to note showed a very marked improvement on previous work. He insists that by going down on the same boat with me he is putting himself into my arrangements altho' I told him today that I had no arrangements with any boat and that I chartered no boat but took passage on one the same as other people. He informed me that Harvey was not yet married but wanted & expected to be married on board of the Perry before she goes out of the Inlet this year.

[pg 185] It is still very windy and it is quite doubtful whether Learnard on board the Perry managed to get into the Arm last night or this morning as the wind must have been blowing very hard from appearances. If not they will not return tomorrow evening as contemplated. This will throw us back another day and as the matter now stands I cannot get down to Homer before the 22nd or 23rd at the outside and the Excelsior is scheduled to be there on the 18th (today). I am sorry Buckley is not going down as I should have enjoyed his society.

I will close this and take up the subject of the Sergeants instructions for the winter. I want him to make a tip up the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] to connect with his own trail and also to make a trip over to Portage Bay. Both of these are very desirable and it is important that they should be mapped properly.

I was much surprised this a.m. to receive a call from Colonel Maher of the Boston, Co. I had scarcely seated myself after greeting him when he informed me that he was in very bad shape indeed that he was almost dead, could not sleep and was really very sick. He looked badly

[pg 186] and much the worse for wear – and I pitied him, and so that when he suggested that a little whiskey or brandy would probably do him good I sent for the medical supplies and gave

him a drink of brandy. Soon after he really felt and looked better and I poor gullible fool congratulated myself upon having done a charitable act – My eyes were soon opened when I noticed that he began to have a “more” look on him. I then realized that he had a good sized “jag” on him probably lasting through some days and that he had waked up this morning to find his eye opener gone – Not being able to get any from other sources he had come to me. I declined however when he asked for just a little more to further reduce my hospital supplies and shortly after this he departed for pastures new – I learned later that he had purchased all the “pain killer” the A.C. Co had on hand, and that previous to his call on me he had consumed all of the alcohol that was on hand in the same store. He said that he was going out this Fall and if so he will probably keep up his present rate of speed so long as he can get the stuff.

[pg 187] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] Oct 19. 98

Weather a.m. raining
P.m. "

Another day has passed and the Perry did not return as promised that she would. She has been delayed by Turnagain Arm winds that have prevailed since she started. It is almost certain now that I shall have to go down on board of the Dora, as the S. S Excelsior will not wait for us until the 22nd or 23rd as I requested but no great harm can result if we can get out in the Dora.

Nothing remains to be done that I can do now until the Perry returns. I will then ship everything except personal stuff to the Knik.

Put in the day in assorting and arranging my correspondence and other papers. I found some satisfaction in the examination of the 1st named as I found that I had foreseen everything that I needed and called for it in ample time for it to have been sent to me so as to have gotten out of here much earlier than I will now get out and now I go out leaving much stuff needed for my stock and no money with which to pay my men.

I called on Hanmore & returned the bidarkii made of birch bark because I was unable to pack it. I bought from “Humpy Stephan” a birch bark basket, a knife that

[pg 188] is very old made use of the indians at Sushitna [i.e. Susitna] Station and a hair pin of bone formerly used by the indian women to comb or scratch the head.

I also interested Hanmore in typewriters and brought him up to the tent where I explained the workings of mine to him. Result was I sold mine to him agreeing to take curios and especially a “Parkey blanket”, which he is to have made for me this winter.

After arranging these details I had a long talk with him – so long in fact that Mrs Hanmore became alarmed and came up after him, getting out of bed to do so at 11. P.M. – in regard to the indians among other things – He tells me that in so far as he can ascertain Mr. Sheldon Jackson has never been in Cook’s Inlet nor has any representative of his been in here. He thinks that a school should be established here. One at Knik, one at Kenai and perhaps one at Kussiloff. The one at this place can accommodate all of the indian children at Ladd’s and many of those at Sushitna [i.e. Susitna] with both of whom the Tyoonoks [i.e. Tyoneks] are intermarried and related. He spoke of the Greek Church in connection with these schools and was

[pg 189] of opinion that it might prove to be a disturbing element in the establishment of such schools. Did not imagine that the trading Companies would interfere but that on the contrary, ~~that~~ they would render valuable assistance to the U.S. in such work. I asked distinctly about these and also his opinion in regard to whether school attendance should be compulsory to which he replied in the affirmative.

He then spoke of the influence of the Greek Church – The substance of this was that while the indians go to this church and are impressed by the form of worship which is very impressive especially to natives of so little education, yet they live a sort of dual life managing to practice some of their own religious rites.

He confirmed the report that the priests of the Greek Church preached against Americans and mentioned an instance of an Educated man coming up here as priest – who appeared so much of a gentleman that he took him to his own house and entertained him. While still his guest he overheard him in a sermon to the indians state that all Americans were bad, not to be trusted and not worthy of association with them – Hanmore called him to time for this and as a result

[pg 190] the Bishop came up from Sitka to investigate the matter but returned receiving the same information in regard to the matter as is herein incorporated. I was much interested in his description of their (the indians) “Potlash” which consists of a meeting – usually a dance – and ceremony that terminates in their giving away everything. If there is not enough to go around they will tear up good blankets or a number of yards of calico into small strips that are distributed to each of the assembled guests. Sometimes entire fortunes (indian) are given away at these fetes. They do not occur so frequently now as formerly and the participants do not give away so much because they haven’t the material to give away.

I was much surprised to learn from him that the indians at this place when he first arrived were thieves, that they stole things from his store and that the present chief was probably the worst one of the tribe. He with the assistance of Creason broke them of this entirely so that now things are safely left around any where. Any thing picked up by them is handed over to the agent

[pg 191] who rewards them collecting from the owner upon delivery. He states that gratitude is practically an unknown quantity in an indians make up – Having noted it in only one indian who is still living here–. He has only seen ~~one~~ three women who were virtuous or true to their husbands. This Trait is also characteristic of the Russian women who inhabit Alaska. He regards the natives as superior to the Russians of this Territory – Most of the latter it is to be noted are not of mixed blood. The settlement at Neilchek is composed of descendents from one Russian woman who was captured by the Yakitats – the rest of the settlement being political offenders from Russia consisting of over fifty families–. He did not find the pres.ik [?] to the priests by the indians as excessive but did not seem to know just what the “tithe” required to be given amounted to.

[pg 192] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek], Oct 20th 98

Weather a.m. clear

P.m. " but windy

This morning I awoke to find the weather very promising and I had but little doubt that the Perry would come out of the Arm on this tide. It is now nearly 4. o’clock and there is no sign of her. It looks as tho the wind is blowing strong out of the Arm now and it will certainly be rough water on the next ebb tide and probably on this flood.

Ordered a pair of tarbesos made for myself to wear on the boat and the pattern was to be followed as given – The tops are to be of moose and the bottoms of beluga skin. They are being made by the bet sewer on the place and I presume will be o.k. – Went down & called on Major Mattson in his cabin and also dropped in on the “Revere”? party of Boston three of whom are going down as far as Juneau on the last boat of the season. They do not speak very highly of this section of the country but they have not been very far into the interior and I do not believe they

have been doing a very great amount of prospecting at any point
Had a conversation with Hanmore in regard to the beads or bones formerly used by the Indians as money.

[pg 193] These bones are about an inch and a half long and about an eighth of an inch in diameter tapering to about half that size at the other end with a slight curve. These are made into belts to be worn by the men and into a sort of necklace worn by the women in the later case hanging well below the waist in front to which it is attached by a string. In both cases they are arranged in single or double rows of ten and twenty to the row – Between each row or double row is a collection of beads and then another row. These pieces of bone or teeth were shipped in here and actually cost about 9¢ each being procured and procurable only at South Sea Islands. Nine or ten years since they were still in use as a medium of exchange possessing a fixed and easily determined value. This station had on hand in the form of pledge or pawn about \$150.00 worth and even now will accept one of these belts for about one fourth of its value as a pledge or pawn under certain conditions. Learning that the chief had one of these I called on him and was much surprised to find that he had half a dozen. The most valuable he rated at \$40.00 and the least at \$14.00

[pg 194] The former contained 300 pieces of money and the later 160. It is useless to state that I did not purchase any at any such price.

In the afternoon while asleep I was aroused by a knock at the tent door but I recognized the voice of Photograph Smith so did not show any signs of life. Afterward I was talking to a Mr Wiggins belonging to a Montana party who said that he was responsible for this man's cognomen and also for the cognomen of Mr "Articulating" Rice. The latter was given him because of his constant flow of speech – Mr W. desires that these two men be thrown together on the Dora. If possible that they be given the same state room since both of them have to talk in order to live – He says that he had Smith take a picture for him and that he had to examine 86 negatives and listen to a long speech about each of them before he could get his own.

It is now 11. P.m. nearly and a strong wind is blowing from Turnagain Arm and has been doing so all the afternoon. It is evidently getting colder.

This afternoon had a call from a Mr Lidell (?) who was "boss Carpenter" for the Engineer in charge of the works at Fort Washington

[pg 195] and fearing that he would lose his position on account of a let up in the work he came to Alaska. Says he has money enough to go down this Fall and to come back in the Spring and has grub enough to last him here for another year. Desiring my advice I told him that I thought he could get work at his trade on the Coast until Spring and could thereby extend his civil service status for another twelve months. I believe he will go out.

In calling on the ~~Boston Party~~ Hanmores this ~~afternoon~~ evening the conversation turned on the mails when I learned that many people in the Inlet are expecting money by registered mail to take them out and the P.S.W. Co. failing to get this mail keeps them in the Territory – This is enough to condemn such procedure to say nothing of the mail matter that is coming in to furnish winter reading. I shall certainly speak to Humphrey in regard to this when I see him.

I also learn from Hanmore who kept a reasonably accurate record of the number of people who came into this Inlet this season that 1225 people have come in since spring and he estimates that from three to

[pg 196] four hundred more will winter here than did last year.

Hanmore also showed me an old Russian map made by one Ivan Ons in 1845 up the Sushitna [i.e. Susitna] river which is a very good map today of the river itself.

[pg 197] Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek], Oct 21, 98

Weather a.m. – clear

P.M. "

Awoke this morning to find it clear with the sun just coming up promising a beautiful day and I haven't been disappointed. Shortly after breakfast went down to take a picture of Major Mattson and his house but was unable to do so as he was out. Did take a sitting of Mr & Mrs Hanmore which should be good ones. Tried on my tarbesos but they did not fit at all. I then went down to the coal beds of Mr White and took a couple of pictures of the vein as it crops out. There is an abundance of it and it will show up in the picture very well I believe altho the best deposit is below the surface of the water and was not exposed during my visit. I am very anxious to know what this coal would look like should one go back a short distance from the beach and bore down into the second stratum. This can be done at a very small outlay and should the coal prove to be valuable an immense amount of money could be made out of it. This coal is now used by the S.S. Perry on certain occasions and is consumed by the natives and others in this vicinity in lieu of wood during the entire year. It burns entirely to an ash and produces good heat in our sibley stoves keeping

[pg 198] our tents very comfortable. I find it full of gas that I think gives me a headache when I have a fire at night. This afternoon I again tried on my shoes and they did not fit – Received an invitation from Mrs Hanmore to take bread & butter with them this evening if the Perry did not come in. This was afterward modified and 5.30 P.M. was the hour set for the feast – Brushed my clothes and made myself as presentable as possible arriving on time and enjoying a very nice well cooked meal.

After dinner a very general discussion of various topics among others my trail and the probable expense of constructing a wagon road through and the time it would require to carry mail through this way –

Hanmore thinks that in order to navigate the Sushitna [i.e. Susitna] river it will require an 18 knot stern wheel boat and that the great trouble will be in getting down stream. Says that all of his early years from youth up was devoted to running boats of stern wheel type on Ohio & Mississippi rivers, and stands ready to recommend to his Company to put such a boat on the river as soon as there is any business

[pg 199] for it. He is strongly in favor of establishing a mail route to Sunrise and Knik if it is possible to do it and believes that a pony express could carry mail from tide water here to the Yukon in Eight days.

I told him of the country traversed by me and particularly of the Madanuska [i.e. Matanuska] Valley as an agricultural location which he concurred it but seemed to think that the Sushitna [i.e. Susitna] Valley is far more promising for this on account of frosts being less apt to destroy crops during the growing season. He strongly advocates the burning off of the mossy portion of the country because it will tend to produce more and better grass and he thinks will tend to raise the temperature generally because the removal of the moss will permit the sun to strike the ice and frozen ground that lies underneath.

The steamer Kodat whistled for this port while we were at supper and about two hours or less afterward The Captain and owner – Captain Smith – came over and I met him. He seems to be a good business man of good principles. From him I learned that the S.S. Excelsior had not arrived at Homer on the 19th when

[pg 200] he left in the evening and the chances are that she did not arrive until today which means it will require her to wait at least 3 days for me and I doubt if she does it.

Mrs Hanmore asked me today if I would buy some hay her father – Mr Andrews had put up here and I told her that I would if I could get it to the Knik. I was afterwards approached by her father himself to whom I gave the same answer.

[pg 201] Oct 22nd 98. Tyoonok

Weather a.m. clear & beautiful

P.M. " " "

Last night it was very cold and I noticed this specially because I had to get up once in the early morning and go outside of the tent. It was just as cold inside as it was outside however. Was sorry Hanmore's maximum and minimum thermometers were not properly adjusted as I should been glad to have known the minimum reading. They are all right now however as I adjusted both for him this morning consuming some hours in doing so.

The Perry has not yet come in altho she may still get here on this tide by bucking the tide for some time but I do not look for her later than from 8 to 9 o'clock. I do not like to load her during the night but am beginning to get anxious about the weather and want to get out of the Inlet. I had a talk with Hanmore about her and he inclines to the theory that she ran aground on a mud flat and if so she will not get off until the 29th of this month when we again have spring tides.

Went down today to try on my tarbesos and found Hanmore was dissatisfied with them and intended trying another woman at making a pair – I assented because the only thing good about these

[pg 202] is the sole and the silver gray fox trimming around the edge – I may take them yet. I saw a specimen of coal taken from the foot wall of a vein about 30 miles back in the interior – West from here towards the mountains – that is the best looking coal I have seen in the inlet. I shall take this sample down because I believe that White's property will prove to be just as good if one can strike it at the proper depth. Hanmore said that he had traced this vein for over 600 miles – not personally all this distance – but through others – He seems to think that it dips under the Inlet and runs around the three peaks, Illgamna and comes through this range through some pass down there.

This afternoon Major Mattson called on me and informed me that he had sold a claim belonging to himself and Castner to a Mr Sleeper for \$300.00. It is located on Indian Creek. That he received as a cash payment one stove \$40.00, one stove \$20.00 about \$8.00 worth of lumber and two Camps at \$1.00 each, making \$70.00 in all. The balance he was to receive when Mr Sleeper came out of the Arm. But Mr S.– while in the Arm bought Budy's claim and

[pg 203] this cost him \$17000.00 and consumed all the ready cash that Mr S. had. He (Mr. S.) had to go out to arrange for the balance of his payment to Buby by January 1st and is to pay for the Mattson Castner Claim when he returns in the Spring. In the mean time he – Sleeper – gives Mattson the keys to the cabin in which is stored about \$400.00 worth of stuff – hardware and tents – which Mattson regards as security. In the mean time Harvey who is working for Ladd

goes down to this cabin, breaks into it and removes everything that is in it. After listening to this story I was asked what I thought of it. I suggested that Mr Harvey be interviewed in a gentlemanly manner and the real reason for his committing such apparent robbery be ascertained – That he did this is learned from the indians but even if he did Ladd is responsible and can be reached at any time and Harvey will tell Mattson by what authority he acted if he is told to do so in the proper spirit –

Photographic Smith was down today in a small dory rowed by Stephan. He had his camera and his explanatory organ with him but I was not curious to see his plates or to hear any explan-

[pg 204] ations that might be offered –

Hanmore is very anxious that I shall be posted on the value of hay raised in this country – which he says is equal to 2/3 of the best grown in the states below.

About 7. P.M. the S.S. Perry came in and when the small dory came ashore Private Evans came in to report which showed conclusively that she had been in to the Knik and such proved to be the fact.

Learnard had secured no hay but arranged to get 6000 lbs. of grain –

Lathrop declined to ~~un~~load so as to catch the next tide as he said we could not finish and all of our night would benefit us nothing as we could not get back from the Knik any sooner –

In the mean time I had torn down all of my tents and kitchen so that I it was necessary to send my men on board to sleep and eat.

Went on board myself and passed a most uncomfortable night, because I was fool enough to take a berth instead of my bedding roll that was on board. As I decided to leave Privates Canwell and Evans at Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek] until my return and considerable personal effects

[pg 205] I decided to leave a conical wall tent, sibley stove & box or two all of which Hanmore agrees to store without cost.

[pg 206] Oct 23rd 98

Weather a.m. clear

P.m. "

Again I awoke to find a most beautiful morning – The sun shone out of a perfectly clear sky – I was awake early and in fact I might add I was awake late – I took a berth in the after part of the cabin. Every one else had retired and I being naturally bashful turned down the lamp then retired behind the portiere. There ~~being~~ was no light except from this lamp as my berth was below the water level. I was soon in dishabille and naturally did not dare to open the portiere as ladies were both in front and behind me. This was in part the cause of my undoing since I could not throw light enough on my seat of trouble to rectify it. I refer to my berth which ran lengthwise of the boat. It was under that occupied by the engineer – who by the way was asleep on his own and snoring but wakeful with all and cranky to a degree when aroused by people turning in or talking in the cabin – The only difference between my own and his bunk aside from the elevation is that he can stretch his feet out while I had to push all of my body below the hips through a hole about 1 ½ feet square. In the 1st place I tried to find my pillow but could not, so I hastily piled my clothes at the place where the pillow should

[pg 207] be and in so doing covered up entirely one of my double blankets, an accident which I did not ~~find~~ discover until near morning when I returned from a trip on deck. I did find another double blanket however which I carefully wrapped around both feet – as far as it would go – and

tried to push them both through the hole in the wall above mentioned. This was soon found to be an impossibility altho I broke off a collar button in my efforts to do so. I then brought my knees up under my chin, wrapped up one foot in the blanket and by dint of much profanity and considerable perspiration managed to get both feet through. I put the unexposed foot on top of the bare one said my prayers in which I asked for more cover, more steam heat and less frost and tried to sleep. This was out of the question of course as my poor bared foot refused to get warm by reason of association with its mate but insisted on more cover – I am glad the wheel was not turning as both were directly over. I put in the next two hours in trying to be impartial towards my feet. To do this required considerable engineering as the blanket would insist on getting caught in the sides of the aforementioned hole in the wall. In the mean time my head

[pg 208] was propped up so high that I either had to flatten my nose against the upper berth or rub all the hair off of my forehead and temples – I am sure my wife will not recognize me. After some hours of this I was forced to go up on deck to — get a breath of fresh air, and when I returned I found my other blanket. I ~~put~~ then put one on each foot worked them into the hole one at a time but one slipped through its covering and struck what I took to be a cake of ice, but which proved to be a rubber blanket. –

To be continued.

Have just had a conversation with White in regard to the 160 acres of coal land near Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek]. He says that he wants \$8000.00 for the property, but to get \$10,000.00 if I can and if I sell I can have 1/3 of the amount sold for. He will hold if necessary an eight or tenth interest if sold to a Company – I hope to God you will have some success with it.

[signature] E.A. White

Immediately after breakfast went ashore and commenced to load our stuff – Finished at 12.45. P.m. when we had lunch, after lunch finished packing my own and Castner's trunk – Spent the afternoon in Hanmore's house – paid my bill, settled up for savings sold him,

[pg 209] receiving Learnard's mess bill and \$94.90 in cash.

At 4. P.M. we were all on board of the Perry when we weighed anchor and pulled out for the Knik. We had a very calm and comfortable passage up to this writing and if our condenser which has worn out and needs repairing does

[pg 210] This writing is with a pen of Mr Paul Buckleys that he had been using as an ordinary pen to be dipped into the ink stand at pleasure – The result was it ceased to perform its functions. It is now however returned to its original state and will work with ordinary care with perfect satisfaction. Its restoration to its present condition is the result of that most excellent virtue patience.

[signature] Mr Paul Buckley

[the following written upside down]

Edwin F. Glenn

Captain U.S. Army

My own pen is much improved by a little cleaning – It is a good thing occasionally

[signature] Paul Buckley

[pg 211]

L. J. Perry

This is Mr Edwin Roberts
Mr Paul Buckley
[inset pg 211 hand-drawn picture]

[pg 212 blank]

[pg 213]

– Lee's story –

July 31st. Laid at Chicaloon *[i.e. Chickaloon]* creek all day & found grey mule –

Aug. 1st. Broke camp, had hard trail for 3 miles. Moved 5 miles & camped – Had good feed for stock – Crossed one creek 1 ½ miles from camp.

Aug 2nd. Left camp at 9.30. Camped again at 4.3.0 P.M. Made 11. miles to Small spring creek on bank of Chicaloon *[i.e. Chickaloon]*. Sgt Mathys said would lay over one day, lots of mountain sheep, & would go hunting.

Aug 3rd. We laid over all day & Sgt Mathys & Ayres went out sheep hunting & got nothing. Baggs self & indian guide & Dillinger stayed in camp all day. Weather clear & bright all day. Horses & mules look good tonight.

Aug 4th. Made trail & travelled 10 miles. Got into camp at 4. o'clock, going to lay over & look a route tomorrow & see how it looks above us. Sergt went out to hunt after supper. Sergt came back & didn't find any thing. The indian didn't get back until after dark. He killed a black bear & brought the leg & hide into camp.

Aug 5th. I went back to last camp after "Lamby" Sergt went out hunting. Rained in valley and snowed on the hills. I crossed the river (Chicaloon *[i.e. Chickaloon]*) on my way back & found a large lead of ore about 2 miles long 300' wide 3 different places that I can see it is full of mineral of some kind. Will send some out to see if it is worth fooling with.

Aug 6th. Stayed in camp all day. It

[pg 214] rained all day. Bagg & self went out prospecting in the forenoon but could not raise a color. In afternoon Bagg went up creek on left & found a large glacier and a level valley below it & all the way up the valley he said a horse could "lope" anywhere. It is the funniest formation, principally granite with lots of quartz lots of iron rock. The country is full of black sand (in panning).

Aug 7th. Laid in camp until noon. After dinner made trail over side hill for about 2 miles & went back to camp. Got there 20 minutes to 7, & I hunted horses all night. They were badly scattered.

Aug 8th. Packed up this morning & moved 8 or 9 miles over rocky river bottom route. The boys saw 2 bears & 5 mountain sheep before we caught up with them. We crossed the river two times today & rode across. Old Doc bucked Dillinger off into the river. After making camp helped Bagg to get supper. After supper saw a big bear about 800 yds away. Shot 4 or 5 shots at it on a

side hill. The shooting scared a moose that ran out down the river. It has been clear all day but started to rain after supper

Aug 9th. We packed up to the foot of the summit & found a lot of grass & wood at the foot of the hill. The Sergt was on top of the Summit & thought it is impossible to take the animals over without a lot of work on it and then it is a hard proposition. We had to follow the river all the way & it is rocky and

[pg 215] (Weather clear that day Aug 9th). got to camp at noon. hard on the horses feet. There are 2 glaciers about a mile above camp. glacier streams both "riley". The side stream is clear. Shod the black mule & Pinto today. Distance travelled 6. miles.

Aug 10th I, Bagg & Naquita went over the Summit today. Saw 2 caribou that I chased & Bagg shot. After we got up about 2 miles we struck 1st big lake to the right of the trail. About a mile further on is the 1st creek to the left flowing towards the Talkeetno and Suschitna [i.e. Susitna] We will pack light loads to the top tomorrow about 100 to 125 to the animal & will have to make two trips to the lake & the round trip will be from 6 to 7 miles. (I rode Pinto right up the hill & over & back that day & as I weigh 165 lbs. I was sure I could pack 125 lbs on each animal). (Bagg went in further & did not get back to camp until after I did. He did not return until after dark when he said that he did not see any way for us to get down to the main river on the other side and that I didn't see the main river at all. He said that he thought a couple of men better go & find a way down before an outfit goes over there.)

Aug 11th. Mathys & Ayres went out to see whether we can get down on the Talkeetno or not. As Bagg had said he could not see any way to get down as there were cut banks that you could not see until you get to them

[pg 216] Dillinger & self looked for & found a pretty fair trail up the hill. Bagg & Naquita stayed in camp all day. In the afternoon I rode Babe down the river & found some pretty fair grass (enough for 4 or 5 hundred animals for a week). The Sergt & Ayres did not come back to camp.

Aug 12th. The Sergt & Ayres returned and found a way to get down. Sergeant killed a caribou & brought in the skin & a hind quarter. Rest of us laid in camp all day.

Saturday, 13th. Made packs up to cross the divide 125 lbs to the animal & down the other side about 50 miles. We made a cache here. Two of the boys are nearly barefooted & the trail is a bad one for them. Went down the creek in the afternoon & shot at 3 different bear. Mathys shot 2 or 3 times at a bear that day.

Aug 14th. (Sunday) Laid in camp all day. I went out to get the horses to start & got orders not to fetch them in. This afternoon Bagg & Mathys left for a hunt for bear. They didn't find any. It is now raining hard & is liable to snow. Mathys says to go tomorrow rain or snow.

Aug 15th. We laid in camp at the foot of the big hill. This makes 6 days here in This Camp. This morning Mathys went out hunting & after supper four of us went up the 1st creek & came back over the hill & had a

[pg 217] hard time. Bagg is sick & cranky & hasn't spoke to me for 2 days.

Aug 16. Laid in camp all day and it rained all day. Cleared off in the evening. I got dinner & supper Bagg cooked for himself. Wouldn't eat our cooking & won't talk to me for some reason or other. Have laid in this camp 7 days.

Aug 17th. Laid in camp all day. I went out in the morning & got the horses to start but it started rain & we didn't go but made packs up to go tomorrow sure. It cleared off in the afternoon & we dried blankets. This is eight days in this camp.

Aug 18th. Laid in camp all day. Rained in forenoon. A cool wind & cleared off in afternoon Naquito went down creek this afternoon hunting & Ayres is making a pr of moccasins & Mathys is fixing his. Bagg did nothing. Dillinger & self got dinner for them. This makes 9 days we have laid here in this camp waiting for a clear up and to find a suitable pass over the Summit. It is a high range of mountains on both sides & considerable quartz showing up in the streams & creeks.

Aug 19th. We made a move today Bagg Mathys & Dillinger took Pinto & Jim & I took Babe to top of hill & I came back to dinner & tried to ride "Hard to Catch" and then packed him & rode Babe down to Cañon

[pg 218] creek & tried to find a trail over that way. I made trail part way a distance of six miles – away from the river (Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon]) [we had travelled up the bed and I made this outside the bed]. Naquita was sent with me. He shot at but did not kill a bear. Lots of bear there. Lots of good grass [mouth of Canon Creek].

Aug 20th (Saturday). Naquita & I broke camp and cut up on mountain & across a little creek on left hand side going down from the head being the 5th creek on the left [There are 5 creeks, branches of the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon], between the camp on the Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] & where we went], coming down. Went to head of what Naquita calls Cañon creek & which he thinks we can cross. From the pass or head of this saw a low pass on what is the 3rd creek. This pass is low for 8 or 9 miles back from the head of it and runs in a Northerly direction & we may find a way through. Took our horses & killed 2 sheep. I did not go over this pass. I intended to go through it on foot in case Bagg did not get back but he got back. We made about 25 miles that day. Plenty of grass on 5th creek.

Aug 21st. Laid in camp. It rained hard all day. Indian did not dress at all that day. We were in camp about 6 miles from main camp –
Vide over one page

[pg 219]

– Naquita's Story –

Stayed one night in the 1st. and 4th. camp. Two days in the 2nd and fifteen days in the 5th. & hunted one day but killed nothing. Stayed three nights in 3rd camp because raining hard – Naquita hunted one day & killed a bear. Fifth camp it rained a day or two & quit a day or two

during the 15 days. Lee & Naquita went back to Camp No 3 & stayed 5 days hunting & killed 2 sheep. Sergt & Mathys (& 1 man?) went up to the lake & back the same day they got to Camp No 5. Sergt, Bagg & 1 man went over the divide to the Talkeetno in one day, took 2 horses. Sergt came back in two days. The other two came back in 7. days. Sergt brought back 1 reindeer hides & some meat that he packed. The other men brought 1 reindeer hide back. He says that Wasilas tells him that Bagg & the man were within one (1) day of his house. The reason they did not go further was on account of a high steep cliff of shale, but they took 2 horses over it with light loads. Naquita did not go to the Talkeetno but Wasilas told him it was a deep creek & very swift. Lee rode over the divide & back in one day.

[pg 220]

Lee's

Aug 22nd. Went back to main camp at foot of hill. Made trail back all the way. Met Mathews about half way down the hill. Indian did not get back until after dark when he said he had crossed the pass & went some distance down. Found Mathys had brought in a Carabou [sic] so that we had plenty of fresh meat.

Aug 23rd. Laid in camp at foot of big hill with Mathys & Naquita. Ayres went up on Summit to hunt & perhaps go to Bagg's Camp. Mathys told him to go over to this Camp & if he is still in Camp & can go no further to tell him to come back not later than the 2nd & we would go down the river (Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon]).

Aug 24th – I, Naquita & Mathys laid in camp all day waiting for Ayres to come back. We all repaired our boots – Ayres came back after dark & said he told Mr. Bagg what Mathys had told him to. Mr Bagg gave him no answer only said that he could get across but the river might raise & he couldn't get back

Aug 25th. I and Ayres went out up

[inset pg 220 hand-drawn map]

[pg 221] on the glacier & located the "White iron quartz lead & came back to main Camp. Mathys went out & picked berries. We did not get back until dark. It rained that day. Was clear in morning & rained in afternoon.

Aug 26. Laid in camp all day. Waiting for Bagg & Dillinger. Mathys gathered a bucket of currants. He said if weather is good we will pull down the creek (Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon]) about 6 miles in the morning.

Aug 27th. Moved back down creek about five miles today & made camp. Mathys & Naquita came in about dark from hunting [killed nothing]. All waiting but hear nothing of Bagg and Dillinger yet.

Aug 28. (Sunday) Bagg & Dillinger came to camp about 8 a.m. before we had breakfast. We laid there all day. Clear all day – I was sick.

Aug 29th Started down creek (Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon]) & made 18 miles. Dillinger Ayres and

I located "Copper King" & "Spotted horse" mines situated on "Sugar loaf" mountain, about 25 miles from mouth of creek.

Aug 30th. Left camp made 13 miles. Camped on top of hill. Rode down to Cachce [sic] to see if Note from Capt Glenn but found none. 3 indians from Knik came to camp.

[pg 222] Aug 31st. Party split up & Bagg & I are to make Caches on Capt Glenn's trail a distance of 60 miles. Sgt Mathys took 3 mules & 1 horse & balance of party back to Knik. Bagg & I left our camp at 2 o'clock. Crossed Chicaloon [i.e. Chickaloon] & camped at Medicine Chest.

Sept 1st. Broke camp and made 6 or 7 miles.

Sept 2nd. Rained all forenoon, brush and grass both wet so laid in Camp all day

Sept 3rd. Had a good day. Started at 8.30. travalled [sic] until 4.30. Think we made 16 to 18 miles. – Made Cachce [sic] on Cañon creek. In it put 100 lbs flour, 50 lbs corn meal, 35 lbs sugar, 15 lbs bacon, Matches 1. case, 18 cans baking powder, 25 lbs coffee, 20 lbs salt, 35 lbs beans, 2 cans pepper.

Sept 4th. Laid over this date, made sax etc to arrange our Cachces [sic].

Sept 5. Went from Cache to Caroubou [sic] a distance of 15 miles. Had a good camp. Found a good prospect. Bagg killed a bear.

Sept 6th. Left camp at 7.30. Made 14 miles. Found place in rocks & Made a Cachce [sic]. In this cache we put

Sept 7th. Laid in camp. I prospected & Bagg dried his hide. It rained.

Sept 8th. Laid over this date to dry his

[pg 223] hide and I prospected & located some claims. Also saw some claims Castner had located.

Sept 9. Left Carabou [sic] – travelled 25 miles and camped. Weather clear.

Sept 10th. Came to Boulder Creek. Weather fair.

Sept 11th. Went up Boulder creek horse back prospecting found 2 leads, but did not locate.

Sept 12th. Left Camp on Boulder (3 miles above Medicine chest) & came to Marshall creek, between 11. & 520. Left note for Capt Glenn with Medicine chest. Rained all day.

Sept 13th. Laid in camp all day. Bagg kicked all day. It rained until noon so did not pack up.

Sept 14th. Left Marshall & came to Moose, distance 28. miles, from 8.30 to 4.30 P.m.

Sept 15th. Left Moose & came to cabin. Had to fix Marshes, got 3 mules down, arrived at 8. P.m.
[hand drawn map underneath writing]

[pg 224] [hand drawn map]

[pg 225]

Coffey [sic] IIIIII

Salt ½ ½

Beans, 40 lbs.

Sugar III

Flour IIIIII ½ ½ I

Potatoes I ½

Pea Soup I

Corn Meal I

Chocolate I

Butter I

Rice I

Bacon I . ½

Advance 7

" 10

" 11

" 10

" 9

" 10

" 10

Return 10 ½

" 16

" 13

" 0

" 11 ½

" 8 ½

" 6

[Facing end piece]

460 = meat @ 6c 27.60 from Hicks

Hire of Indian \$12.00

39.60

78.00

38.40

\$78.00

37.00

\$115.00

39.60

75.40

Address of VanSchoohoven gun man

Henry Bahrenburg

Tyoonok [i.e. Tyonek], Alaska,
Knik Inlet, Trading Station.

[the following written upside down]
Edwin F. Glenn.

[end piece not transcribed: hand drawn map with writing on page over top]