

Stickeen R. near
Glunara.

24 May,
1887

your
Gloyn
] My dear Anna,

I write to you to

report progress, which to far I
ought to say is unsatisfactory.

This is our fifth day from
the sea in the little river steamer
which runs in the Stickeen, &
with good luck, which we
have no reason to expect, we
may reach our destination
at Telegraph Co tonight.

In that case the steamer will
probably return tomorrow,
taking down this letter.

The river is a very swift one
& difficult to climb, full of
little rapids & in some places
shallow & hollow, as the summer
rise has not yet fully commenced.

may suppose I am very anxious to get on to the lake

& our steamer has scarcely
 sufficient power. She is a
 little stern-wheeler without any
 accommodation except a few
 bunks for the hands & the
 rule therefore is to go ashore &
 camp at night, about 8 o'clock,
 starting again between 3 & 4
 in the morning. The steamer
 herself is quite a curiosity &
 the last night we had a cargo
 of about 40 Chinamen, besides
 a few natives w^ot Chinamen.
 The Celestials were, however,
 landed last night at Elenora,
 where there once was a lively
 little town, which, since the
 Cassiar mines have gone
 down is almost completely
 abandoned. We have been
 for some hours at this spot
 endeavouring to get a live beaver

aboard to warp the steamer
 up a little rapid, having
 already tried unsuccessfully
 to steam up it. The little
 boat does the best she can
 with a tremendous pressure
 of steam on, far more than
 allowed by regulations or
 tests, but cannot wriggle
 up some of the swift water
 without a rope. From Telegraph
 we have 73 miles to go
 by pack train to Dease
 Lake, where my work is
 really to begin. From what
 I hear I doubt if the ice
 will have gone from the
 lake when we arrive there.
 The scenery on the Stickeen
 is very fine, as the river

wakes its way completely
 across the Coast Range to
 the Sea, & is bordered by
 gigantic mountains. We are in
 a somewhat lower Country now,
 in which the Climate is relatively
 dry & the snow line is far
 up the mountains & trees
 leafing out. Lower down in
 the heart of the mountains there
 is a very heavy snow fall
 & the flats along the river are
 still more or less covered
 with snow. There are also
 several very large glaciers,
 one of which parties out almost
 to the river, with a front
 two miles or so in length.
 The weather is very fine & sun

25 May

P.S. Since writing above have arrived at Telegraph
Creek, the head of navigation on the stickkeen. It took
us all day yesterday & today till noon to make
the distance from Eleonara, about 12 miles. We
came in fact near losing the steamer altogether in
one of the rapids, as she took a shear & was
carried back against a high rock, from which,
however, she rebounded comparatively uninjured. The
Captain says it is the roughest trip he has
made on the river so that we may count we
have had a pretty good specimen of the navigation.

I fear there is likely to be a delay of some days
here, & if so will write again to someone at
home. Meanwhile the steamer is to leave again
in a few hours & I take the chance of sending
this down to Wrangell, where it may chance to
get off or remain for a week or two before
leaving for Victoria

Yours
George

