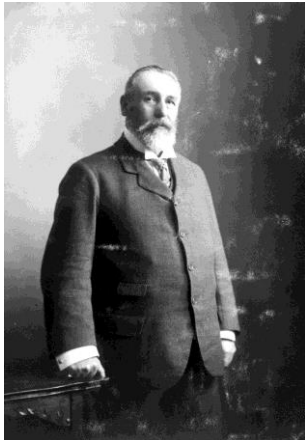


Richard Alexander's Diary Entries

Journey to British Columbia in 1862

BCA E/B/A13.1



Richard Henry Alexander (1844-1915). John Savannah photograph; BCA A-01072.

Sunday, September 7, 1862

Started pretty early and made a long march along the bank of cow-dung lake. A lovely day. Camped for dinner on the bank of the Fraser River for the first time. Shot 6 partridges this morning. After dinner made a long march. I forgot my pipe and had to turn for it after having gone nearly a mile. We had streams innumerable to cross and as dark fell it began to rain.

Crossed a pretty rapid stream and found the guide camped where had been an Indian wigwam which did not promise much shelter and it looks likely to rain all night.

Monday, September 8, 1862

Did not start til late this morning as everything was soaking wet as it rained the whole night tremendously. We had to wait to dry everything. We had not very much rest you may imagine as we had little or no shelter and the rain ran in streams where we were lying. After going a very short distance we found we were on an island and that the stream had risen so during the night that we were unable to cross it. The water was too broken for a raft. Joe the guide crossed it and then Burgess paid him to carry his baggage across. Thompson and I next stripped and tied our packs on our shoulders and tried but were nearly carried away and had difficulty in getting back again. Burgess then bribed the guide to go on with him so as we could not get across we camped there.