

June 12th

1899

My dear H.

After writing to you 6-5
day we took camp and the
men & which the men were
pitching & repairing the shingle
shed. I took a ramble through
the forest & in 2 hours found
a narrow track at the
stream N. Returning I took
some men & we opened it at
for 1000 ft. through Webster's
Spruce & a hybrid scrub of a
small ~~cedar~~ ^{Holly}: it took 4
hours getting so high. about
1/2 a mile linear, i.e. distance.
The river is a tremendous
torrent. swollen fearfully, it
is a cutaway for this whole
1000 ft. i.e. we were pooling
for a yard. but we shut off from.
At 12500 ft. it runs tranquil

In a deep ravine & to my
astonishment I find its
temp 4° higher than 1000 ft
above down - The breeze
arises from a flatish country
or flows through such from
a very distant snowy source.
We returned by dark very
tired.

June 13th Ascended the
river again & explore further
morning in 2 hours was
quite day finites. Continued
up through a deep defile.
occupied my entire day. Tem-
perature - At 12,700 ft. - are
vast bed of snow & much
inconceivable slips of stones.
The snow bridges the river
for many yards & is 20-40
ft thick. But there is little

on the surrounding Bluffy
sides & there are at the foot
of lateral currents - still the
accumulation is prodigious.
At 13000 ft the valley suddenly
expands, with low hills on
either hand, is filled full of
huge rocks & is impenetrable
a sort of Rhododendron that
we did not ^{get} ^{until} 1/4 in 4 hours.
Had to knock off at 4 PM.
attending some up. scratched &
bruised. The day was very
back thick mist & heavy
rain, cold & uncomfortable &
our devious route through
the shrubs, clambering precipices
& wading through clefts of
rocks, or up the river banks
dropped. The showing cascades
much disagreeable. Could see

except to the opposite side for
the last $\frac{1}{4}$ mile is very practi-
cally to appearance.

At this broad part; there is
hardly a patch of snow as
far as I could see - even up
to 14000 ft. on either flank
of the valley - & the river
still kept the high temperature
of 49° at 13000 ft! which
at ¹²⁰⁰⁰ ~~11000~~ ft it was 47° & at
the main stream into which it falls 40°
¹¹⁰⁰⁰ 45° . I need not say
we had no path of any
kind. We were 4 hours
returning as fast as we
could drive reaching camp
in pitch dark, but the men
had come out with lights
in the wood. Since so can we
not drive back once, at 4 PM
for half an hour

I must now take a part of
the camp up the valley. & I
continue the exploration, but
how to get the coolies along is
the difficulty & they are of
course hearty side of this
work. I conclude the river
has a remote source, ^{or near me in low hills} though
my position, the snow I have
seen & temperature all lead
me to believe I am beyond
the main range of the Himal
and close to the Plateau.

I am the more anxious
about this route, as I think
I am surely informed that
the Lachen Pass is a bridge
& that a Chinese post has been
recently established there.
One thing is certain that
the Rajah's message is left
at the bridge & then received

by Tibetans. This does not
 prove the beyond being China;
 for the Wallong salt is taken
 by Tibetans to the Wallong
 14. I had a fine view this
 morning - West of Kinshu
 Mountains D. 2. I take it
 both South of my position,
 which is I presume as there



S. B. I have made the
 map very a little.

a large salt here

Letting her about "Low hills with snow"

W. 11.

This influence
 of Tibetans

Lefty Snow

I calculate the breadth of
the P.S. ranges here between
the Subliminal & Thicket to be
24 miles or rather less.

As far as I can make out there
is no plateau proper at all of this
but some undulating rocky
hills. & all the evidence
I can collect is against there
being any Pass proper, i.e.
over a snowed ridge North
of Lachen. but you know I
give you my information
just as it comes & you must
weigh it. I am positive of my
opinions, which must lean
to what these lying wretches
say, in the absence of better
data.

You cannot I assure you
form an idea of the difficulty

of getting on in this weather
without route, guide or
dependable information. None
of the multitude of paths
you may take. There being
all over the best tiller more
than trails to yaks grazing
or for Shikari - a bush once
cut indicates a path, where
it leads & how long or far you
may track it you must
find out yourself & you have
no sure guide in direction
no bearings or distances to
help you.

I have written L. Falconer
declaring my sentiments fully
as to his car club, & that
except he can explain or
apologize for it here with
my communication must

June 17th I am all right again. The weather
is very charming.

be discontinued ^{himself} with the
H.M. Gardens, directly or
indirectly. My Father is
complaining of my sending
nothing to Kew. & you know
what numbers of roots I have
transmitted to Latouche & with
what trouble, for division
with Kew very few of which
were, previous to Macrae's
taking charge, ever acknowledged.

My F. says with some
bitterness "we have literally
nothing to show of yours in
to Royal Gardens". I have
said nothing to him about F.

Rowling wrote to me about
cutting ailing drops at Dayling
The scheme appears good &
he is a zealous & skillful
Horticulturist so I have
passed the recommendation

From same place
June 10th

1100
No 11
Rec June 23

B. N. Hodgson Esq

of buds to send out collecting
& is I fear turned a sad day.

The attendance is most welcome,
with return it as soon as I
can, it has come most opportunely
at this juncture. I am very
sorry the plants arrive in so bad
a state & have followed your
advice about keeping them
but several bundles were
ruined before I was aware of
the fact.