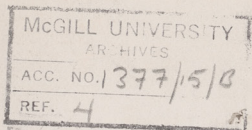


Aug. 1. 1883.

S. Fork old Indian R. at
base of mountains.

My dear Mother,

I got back here last
night from the British Columbia side
of the mountains, & connected with a
lot of letters & other mail matters. Since
leaving here I have been gone just
a month less 6 days, & in that
time have traversed a very rough
country via the Crow Nest Pass to
Wild Horse Creek on the Kootenay River,
& then back by the N. Kootenay Pass.
I am now going off to the N. Fork of
the old man for a few days, perhaps
a week & am not stopping to
arrange matters more than I can help.



Next time I get here it will be
 necessary to stay 1 or 2 whole days to
 rest, as I will be absent a much
 longer time, & perhaps may not return
 here at all, but get out westward &
 down to the northern Pacific R. The
 weather so far has been remarkably
 fine & not excessively warm though
 this year's frosts are extremely troublesome,
 only two bad duckings in the month.

I hope Foster may be able to make a
 successful trip out west, & give
 some idea of the Country. I hope when
 he gets back he will write & let us
 know his experiences. This is the
 only letter I can send you home at present,
 but I hope to write more fully next week
 on my return.

Yours affectionately Son

Ferge