

winding road cut on the hill side up to it. We arrived at our destination in good time, filled 3 bags of clay & took these onto the other side of the river bed opposite the clay. Made ourselves comfortable for the night, cut some fern & glass for a bed. —

(2 teams up.)

Nov. 26. Thursday, dry dew fine, D.S. up early, three of the horses gone, hunting for them from four till 11 a.m. searching in all directions, we went up a lofty peak, on it we found several remains of charred trunks of black birch, evidently bush has some day grown in this locality, from the summit we should if clear have had a splendid view of the surrounding country, as it was we could see enough, to make one feel proud of the land of our adoption, we could see the windings of the Waikouia & Waimakariri both mighty rivers, alongside which, the Haukomo, Wawiri, & the Waikiti appear but as streamlets.

To the N.W. sketches the mighty snowy ranges, below the snow line for the most part here, densely covered with bush.

We found them up the narrow gorge of the kiti, had to cross the river four times, loaded up & off down to Ross & stopped there for the night, hauled in the horse foot.

Nov. 27. Friday, thick mist early morn, dry D.C. fine

down through to Etche late some 10 P.M. tired both man & horse we took Muchelwraiths old track & so saved 3 miles, clear of Whites House, feed at Matthews & at cooks accommodation house.

Nov. 28. Saturday, dew fine, stiff D.W. S.W. in the evening. delivered the clay, one 1 ton 12 cub. 3 yds & the other (mine) 21 lbs heavier. jolting at sundry jobs, horse very lame.

Nov. 29. Sunday, misty showers, stiff D.C. to Church morning & evening, stopped & heard them practice Jackson's Te Deum, it reminded me of the times I have heard it sung in Old Stoke Church, recalled to memory happy times bygone when a contented mind, was mine!

To Mr. Cuddons in the evening spent a pleasant evening.

Nov. 30. Monday, misty, cleared below, but a heavy canopy of clouds enveloped the heavens, driven by a very strong N.E. wind, jolting, digging cutting chaff & etc, etc.

December 1st. Tuesday, fine up to Gigg's Stg. D.W. by showers in the evening S.W. loaded with 600 bricks for flowers, (at Jacksons brick yard. very road.) up to Gigg's.

[This is a day that will be remembered by many, as the day on which the first railway was opened in Canterbury, a grand day, numbers gathered together to see it. A grand dinner in the good store. This is a commencement of our system of railways.]