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GRAVE OF PAUL FRASER

In the fall of 1935 Walter Jamieson of Princeton, and Harry Squakin of Chu-chu-e-waa (the Indian village near Hedley) reported the discovery of a grave on Manson mountain. At that time there was some doubt regarding the name of the man commemorated by the lonely headstone but it was known that about the middle of last century one of the Hudson's Bay Company servants had been killed by a falling tree, somewhere along the old brigade trail where it crosses Manson mountain. This mountain is south of Pierre river, East of Hope, and in the Yale district. The site of the grave is marked by a rock, about one-and-a half to two feet in height, standing upright. On the brigade trail trees have grown up, and are now "thicker around than telegraph poles" - to use Harry Squakin's description.

In answer to an enquiry, the Editor of The Beaver, Mr. Douglas MacKay, communicated with the Archives Department of the Hudson's Bay Company, and received the following reply from London, England.

John Goodfellow. [10.8.36]

Extract from letter from Chief Factor James Douglas to William G. Smith, Secretary of the Hudson's Bay Company in London, dated Victoria, 7th August, 1855:-

"This moment, as the "Otter" is starting for San Francisco, letters have arrived from Langley, announcing the death of Chief Trader Fraser, at 'Campment de Chevrui'. A tree fell upon him, and he survived the accident only about an hour, and never spoke.

The other particulars connected with that melancholy event, by which the Company has lost a zealous and devoted servant and his colleagues a warm hearted friend will be gathered from Chief Trader [Donald] Mansons letter, which is herewith transmitted. . . ."

Letter from Chief Trader Donald Manson to Chief Factor James Douglas, dated "Campment de Chiv" 29th. July, 1855.

"I have this moment [1 p.m.] arrived here from the Quaquyalla where I left Mr. McLean, at 6 A.M. this morning, with our Brigade - I am now very very sorry to inform you of the death of our old & worthy friend Mr C[hief] Trader Paul Fraser, poor Gentleman he only survived the blow about an hour,

and during that time he never spoke, I shall see the body interred and arranged as well as our means admit, and bring the Kamloops Brigade on with me to that place where I shall leave Mr C[hief] Trader McLean in charge until further instructions from the Board - On reaching Kamloops I shall have his papers collected and sealed up immediately. . . . N.B. He died yesterday about 6 P M<sup>n</sup>

(H.B.C. Arch. A. 11/56)

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