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Edward W. Nelson - Alaska, April 1 - December 23, 1879

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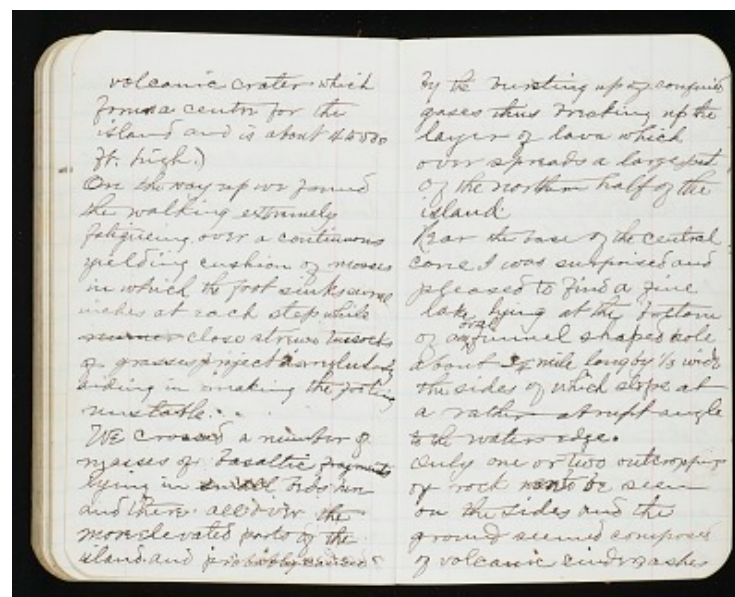
volcanic crater which forms a center for the island and is about 4 to 500 ft. high.)

On the way up we found the walking extremely fatiguing over a continuous yielding cushion of mosses in which the foot sinks several inches at each step while ~~close~~ of grasses project irregularly aiding in making the footing unstable.

We crossed a number of masses of basaltic fragments lying in small beds here and there all over the more elevated parts of the island. and probably caused by the bursting up on confused gases thus breaking up the layers of lava which overspreads a large part of the northern half of the island.

Near the base of the central cone I was surprised and pleased to find a fine lake lying at the bottom of an oval funnel shaped hole about 3/4 mile long by 1/3 wide the sides of which slope at a rather abrupt angle to the water's edge.

Only one or two outcroppings of rock ~~to~~ to be seen on the sides and the ground seemed composed of volcanic cinder, ashes



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