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## **David Crockett Graham - Diary no. 10, July 1930 - December 1930**

Extracted on Apr-18-2024 01:52:37

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This morning it was hot. Then a fierce wind arose, and nearly blew the tent down. When I was pounding down the stakes, the hatchet flew off its handle and cut my hand. This evening it is raining.

July 21. Yesterday some Tibetan apparently stole my (The Smithsonian's) hunter's hatchet. (Later it was recovered).

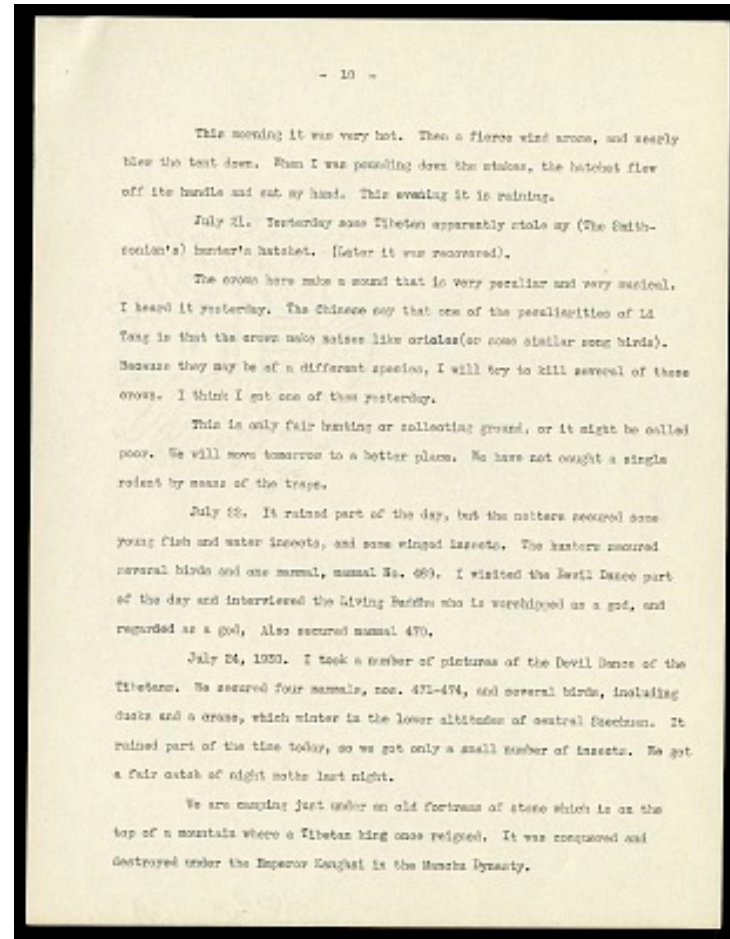
The crows here make a sound that is very peculiar and very musical. I heard it yesterday. The Chinese say that one of the peculiarities of Li Tang is that the crows make noises like orioles (or some similar song birds). Because they may be of a different species, I will try to kill several of these crows. I think I got one of them yesterday.

This is only fair hunting or collecting ground, or it might be called poor. We will move tomorrow to a better place. We have not caught a single rodent by means of the traps.

July 22. It rained part of the day, but the netters secured some young fish and water insects, and some winged insects. The hunters secured several birds and one mammal, mammal No. 469. I visited the Devil Dance part of the day and interviewed the Living Buddha who is worshipped as a god, and regarded as a god. Also secured mammal 470.

July 24, 1930. I took a number of pictures of the Devil Dance of the Tibetans. We secured four mammals, nos. 471-474, and several birds, including ducks and a crane, which winter in the lower altitudes of central Szechuan. It rained part of the time today, so we got only a small number of insects. We got a fair catch of night moths last night.

We are camping just under an old fortress of stone which is on the top of a mountain where a Tibetan king once reigned. It was conquered and destroyed under the Emperor Kanghsi in the Manchu Dynasty.



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