

Archaean, and partly on a Palaeozoic floor, and have participated to some extent in the later folding which has affected the region.

The pebbles of the conglomerates seldom exceed half an inch in diameter and consist of rounded and sub-angular fragments derived from the disintegration of the schists, slates and quartzites of the neighbourhood. Below Deserters' Cañon, a ridge of hard conglomerate and sandstone, through which the stream has cut a narrow gorge, crosses the valley. At the lower end of the cañon the walls are vertical in places, but farther up, the banks have weathered into a steep slope.

Deserters' Cañon has the appearance of a recent channel, and probably owes its origin to an alteration in the course of the stream during the glacial period, as the easily eroded material of which its banks are formed could not have withstood the assaults of a large swift stream heavily charged with sediment, such as the Finlay, for any lengthened period.

Shuswap series.

The Tertiary conglomerates and associated rocks are replaced, a short distance east of the Deserters' Cañon, by the gneisses and mica-schists of the Shuswap series, but extend in a westerly direction for four or five miles, or as far as the base of the mountain range bounding the valley in this direction.

White limestone mountains.

Above Deserters' Cañon, the valley is bordered on the west by a conspicuous range of white mountains from 2000 to 3000 feet in height. On closer examination these proved to be composed of a fine-grained, whitish, compact limestone. This rock weathers in places to a light yellow or rusty colour, and occasionally is very siliceous. No fossils were found in it, but from its position relatively to the Shuswap series it was referred to the Cambrian. The limestone is very much disturbed and probably lies along a line of faulting running with the valley.

Bordering ranges.

The schists and gneisses of the Shuswap series form the bordering mountain ranges on both sides of the Finlay below the mouth of the Ingenica, but above that point, while still continuing on the east, they recede toward the west, and are replaced by the limestones referred to above.

Laramie conglomerates.

From Deserters' Cañon to Paul's Branch, a distance of thirty miles in a straight line, the Finlay winds through the centre of its valley without touching the bordering mountain ranges. The valley in this stretch is floored throughout with Laramie conglomerates, sandstones and shales, exposures of which occur at intervals all along. These rocks here are usually little indurated and occasionally hold small lignite seams. Fossil plants occur in many of the beds.