

Other travellers, who were not directly commissioned by the Imperial or Colonial Governments, passed through the country, and on their return added valuable contributions to the general stock of information. In 1859 and 1860 the Earl of Southesk followed the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan valleys to the Rocky Mountains, and some years afterwards gave the public the benefit of his observations. In 1862 and 1863, Lord Milton and Dr. Cheadle crossed from the Atlantic to the Pacific by the Yellow Head Pass and Thompson River, performing a journey in which they were exposed to perils and narrowly escaped disaster. The volume, "The North-West Passage by Land," published on their return to England, is one of the most charming among modern books of travel. In 1864 we again find Dr. Rae at work. On this occasion he had abandoned the Arctic regions in favour of a more southern journey. He crossed, as Milton and Cheadle did in the previous years, *via* the Saskatchewan, to Tete Jaune Cache, but, unlike them, he turned at this point to follow the Fraser in place of the River Thompson, finally reaching the Pacific coast.

I ought not to omit to mention Messrs. Douglas and Drummond, both botanists, who spent some time in the country, and David Thompson, after whom the River Thompson is named. He was for many years in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company as astronomical surveyor. To his labours we are indebted to no small extent for our geographical knowledge of much of the interior.

I should do injustice to the missionaries who have gone forth at different times to Christianise and civilise the native tribes, did I overlook the part they have taken in throwing light on the physical features of the several regions they have visited. Ministers of the Anglican, Wesleyan, Presbyterian, and Roman Churches have each and all done their part. To French clergymen of the last-named Church we are perhaps chiefly indebted. Nearly a hundred and fifty years ago Pierre Arnaud, on his first intercourse with the Indians, fell a victim, together with one of the brothers Verandrye and party on their way between Lake Superior and Red River. Canada owes much also to the learned Archbishop Taché, whose travels during a sojourn of over thirty years have been extensive, and the results of whose observations in many parts of the far interior have been given to the world.

This brings the list of the principal explorers, as far as I have been able to learn who they were, and the record of the various independent discoveries which have been made, up to the period when the whole territory formerly known as British North America came under the name and jurisdiction of Canada. As I before