

the eye could reach, assumed a foreign tinge, under an uninterrupted profusion of roses and blue-bells. On the summit of one of these hills we commanded one of the few extensive prospects we had of late enjoyed. One range of heights rose behind another, each becoming fainter as it receded from the eye, till the farthest was blended in almost undistinguishable confusion with the clouds, while the softest vales spread a panorama of hanging copses and glittering lakes at our feet."

July 15.—The travelers had now reached the Bow River, or the south branch of the Saskatchewan, "which," says Simpson, "takes its rise in the Rocky Mountains near the international frontier, and is of considerable size, without any impediment of any moment. * * * At the crossing place the Bow River was about a third of a mile in width, with a strong current, and some twenty miles below, falls into the main Saskatchewan, whence the two streams flow toward Lake Winnipeg, forming at their mouth the Grand Rapids of about three miles in length."

A smart ride of four or five hours from the Bow River through a country very much resembling an English Park, brought the party to Fort Carlton, on the Saskatchewan—latitude 53 deg. longitude 108 deg.

"The Saskatchewan," remarks Gov. Simpson, "is here upward of a quarter of a mile wide, presenting, as its name implies, a swift current. It is navigable for boats from the Rocky Mountain House, in longitude 116, to Lake Winnipeg, upwards of seven hundred miles in a direct line, but by the actual course of the stream, nearly double that distance. Though, above Edmonton, the river is much obstructed by rapids, yet from that Fort to Lake Winnipeg, it is descended without a portage alike by boats and canoes, while even on the upward voyage, the only break in the navigation is the Grand Rapids, already mentioned."

July 17.—After forty-eight hours at Fort Carlton, Gov. Simpson's party resumed its journey along the north or left bank of the Saskatchewan. The first day's route "lay over a hilly country so picturesque in its character that almost every commanding position presented the elements of a picturesque panorama."

July 18.—The hottest day—inconvenience from thirst—encamped at 9 P. M. on a large lake.

July 19.—Overtook the emigrants to the Columbia. In this connexion so many particulars of interest are given that we make a liberal extract.

"These emigrants consisted of agriculturists and others, principally natives of Red River Settlement. There were twenty-three