

height of 1,800 feet above the streams. They have the appearance of being in a state of mature dissection, cut by numerous small creeks and having many basin shaped hollows, which are frequently filled with water.

Few of the peaks of the foothills exceed 2,200 feet in height, and those with a greater elevation are widely different in their contour from those with a lower altitude. The highest peak of the Illyde range, which lies east of the mouth of Little Wind river, has an elevation of 2,600 feet above the stream. Its summit is sharp and its highest slopes steep and covered with talus, showing no indication of ever having undergone glacial erosion, and bearing a sharp contrast to the outline of the hills seven or eight hundred feet below.

Rounded pebbles and drift of foreign material were found on the slopes of Illyde range up to a height of 1,700 feet above the Wind river, and beyond that the surface was covered with broken and angular fragments of the country rock. The range to the east of the Snake river, whose highest points are only about 2,000 feet above the river, has apparently been completely submerged. No sharp peaks appear and water-worn pebbles were found up to a height of 1,600 feet. These consist of limestone, quartzite, granite and some conglomerate, most of which appears to have been derived from the main range to the south.

Some sections, which have been exposed in the valley of the Wind river, show boulder clay and gravel overlying the harder rocks, but as a rule the glacial drift is very thin or is seen only in patches. Eastward to the Snake river it becomes much thicker, but thins again northward to the Mackenzie delta.

The timber on this plateau consists almost entirely of spruce. Birch and tamarack which are totally absent in the mountain section, appear for the first time on the plateau near the mouth of the Little Wind river.

Banksian pine was never seen anywhere, and poplar of two varieties, only on the islands and lower flats of the river.

The height of the timber line on the hills near the Little Wind river is 1,400 feet above the bottom of the valley, or about 3,000 feet above sea level. Relative to the bottom of the valley, the timber line is at about the same elevation down to Fort McPherson; but its absolute elevation gradually decreases northward.

The geology of the foothills section of the plateau region is in marked contrast to that of the mountain section. Three miles from the base of the main range, cliffs 150 feet high, composed of slightly inclined sandstone, appear on the banks of the stream. These cliffs show the following succession from the base upwards:—A fine con-