

to the north above the portage. Its valley is wide and U-shaped and increases in width near the head of the creek, where several lakes occur besides the large one in which the stream rises. From the north end of the portage trail to the junction with the Wind river is a distance of twelve miles. It enters the Wind valley, however, at nine miles from the portage and flows in it for three miles before joining its waters with those of the Wind river. One mile above the portage the stream forks, the smaller branch also rising in a lake about five miles beyond. The two branches each occupy, for several miles, a part of the same wide valley, and are only separated from each other by a long, narrow, isolated ridge 1,500 feet above the stream at its highest point. The upper part of the Nash valley lies parallel with the Beaver valley and, like the latter, coincides with the strike of the rocks. A straight line drawn through the upper part of the Nash valley and continued southeast would run directly through the two passes at the head of Braine creek, so that Braine pass is practically the continuation of the Nash valley, while the Nash valley below this is tributary to it. The grade of Nash creek is very steep, and though only one short cañon occurs, the rest of the stream is exceedingly swift, shallow and full of gravel bars. It is often bordered by cut banks of consolidated clay and gravel of glacial origin, which have a height of 100 feet and more. In two or three places great snowslides had occurred, and in one of these the water had cut a narrow channel between walls of snow twenty-five feet high.

Though on the northern slope of the divide, the water of Nash creek is about four degrees warmer than that of Braine creek, due, no doubt, to the large lakes in which Nash creek rises. The vegetation too is slightly different in character. Balsam poplar grows in abundance on the flats of Nash creek, while none was seen on Braine creek. Arctic poppies in great profusion were seen on the northern slope of the divide.

THE WIND RIVER.

On information obtained from some of the prospectors who crossed by the Bonnet Plume pass in 1899, I estimated that we reached the Wind river at a point about twenty-five miles below that pass. According to estimates made with a cyclometer in winter time by these prospectors, the distance from Peel river to the Bonnet Plume pass is 132 miles. My own estimate of the distance from Nash creek to the Peel river is about 100 miles.

The Wind river is so called by the Indians of that region because of the furious gales that are constantly blowing down its valley.

The valley occupied by the Wind river is broad and U-shaped, timbered in some parts by spruce and poplar, but totally bare in others. In this the Wind river flows in a broad, shallow bed sometimes half