

Plume pass and the head of the Wind river. The pass he reports to be wide and flat, with an almost imperceptible slope to the waters of the Wind on the one side and those of the Stewart on the other. In fact one of the streams at the summit could, with very little trouble, be diverted so that it would flow to either side. He himself simply dragged his canoe through the marsh on the summit, and never had to carry it at all. He estimated the summit of the pass to be 3,500 feet above sea level.

About five years ago a couple of prospectors crossed the Peel-Yukon divide at the head of the Twelve-mile or Chandindu river, and descended the whole length of the Peel river to Fort McPherson on a raft, being the first white men to make the trip, but as these men were lost, and strange to say, thought themselves on the Stewart they made no sketch of the river, and only discovered their whereabouts when they landed at Fort McPherson.

In December, 1902, a small patrol of North-west Mounted Police left Dawson with dog teams, and crossing over the divide at the head of the Twelve-mile river, got into Peel River waters at the Blackstone river. They crossed to the Hart river and from thence to the Little Wind river and descended that to the Big Wind. From here they followed our own route to Fort McPherson, except that they cut across the big bend in the Peel from the Bonnet Plume river to Trail creek.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ROUTES.

##### DESCRIPTION OF BRAINE CREEK.

Braine creek is a typical mountain stream, never in any part navigable for canoes. Rising in two small mountain glaciers on the flanks of one of the highest peaks in the region, it flows first in an easterly direction for two and a half miles, when it is joined by a branch of almost equal volume from the west. The combined streams then turn sharply to the southwest and, cutting almost directly across the strike of the rocks, join the Beaver river about fourteen miles below.

The stream occupies in its lower portion a broad U-shaped valley, sometimes a mile in width, with the bordering mountains rising to a height of 3,000 feet on either side. In the upper portion this width sometimes contracts to a quarter of a mile and its character is more V-shaped. The grade is always exceedingly steep, and the volume of water is never very great; wherever it is confined to a single channel, the latter is sufficient to float a lightly-laden canoe, but as the tendency of the water is to spread out into several different channels, the opportunities for real canoeing are rare.