

hot springs here and there, one of which already is famous for its medicinal properties, and water-falls tumbling down the mountains for hundreds of feet. The region of the Fraser River is of peculiar grandeur and beauty. Gazing from afar at a noble cone, now known as Lookout Mountain, the explorers saw a long, white streak down its rugged side. They found it was a magnificent cascade, its waters lashed to snowy whiteness, and dashing for three thousand feet down the steep slope. These placid mountain lakes are full of trout, and the great hills that tower from 3,000 to 6,000 feet above them are mirrored in the waters. Mr. Peary, the American traveler on Greenland's inland ice, thinks there is no air in the world like that he breathed on that wonderful ice plain 7,500 feet above the sea; but draughts of Rocky Mountain oxygen lose none of their health-giving quality by adding the aroma of fir and hemlock. Deer and black bear are numerous, grouse abound, and goats and Rocky Mountain sheep clamber far up the mountain side. Tourists, hunters, and invalids already are making their way to this new resort for health and recreation; and among these picturesque lakes, romantic rivers, and grand mountains, a large district has been set apart for the National Park of Canada.

A force of men are constantly at work making roads and bridle paths to the numerous points of interest in Canada's big pleasure resort. The National Park is about 500 miles north-west of our own great Park. It is on the Canadian Pacific at the eastern edge of British Columbia, and though it never can rival our Yellowstone Park in natural wonders, it is destined to be one of the famous breathing spots of the continent. Bridle paths lead up the mountains from whose tops magnificent panoramas unfold. Picturesque bridges span the Bow and Spray Rivers, and from the Bow bridge one sees a noble river shooting past at twenty miles an hour before it plunges over the falls. Here is an interesting cave, and hot and sulphur springs, whose waters are led by conduits to various sanitariums, and high up in the mountains is a natural basin full of tepid water where many a visitor takes a plunge; and a few hours steaming, over the crests of the Rocky Mountains, lands the visitor among the wonders of the Selkirk range. He leaves the train at the very foot of one of the greatest glaciers in the Temperate zones.

Fancy a river of solid ice about 500 feet thick, stretching up the mountain for nine miles with a width of a mile to a mile and a half, moving down the slope in midsummer, over a foot a day, with immense moraines along the sides and front where quartzite blocks, weighing many tons, have been pushed ahead or swept aside, and you have a faint picture of the Great Glacier of the Selkirks. It is believed no Indian ever visited these mountains, and the Selkirks are still imperfectly explored, though we know many of the mountains are almost uniformly about 10,000 feet high, that above 7,500 feet the rugged peaks are clad in perpetual snow, and that scores of glaciers push down the slopes to the forest region. It was an interesting discovery that our mountain climbers may find, at home, opportunities for adventure above the snow line, rivaling those of the Alps and the Caucasus. Our chief authority on the Selkirks is the explorer Green, the first to climb Mount Cook in the New Zealand Alps. He calls the Selkirk region, "one of the loveliest districts on our planet," though he had some tribulations there induced by a bucking mustang to whose back the scientific instruments unfortunately had been confided. In a paroxysm of bucking, the animal dashed the theodolite, the prismatic compass, and other instruments to the ground, and then added insult to injury by rolling on the débris. When Mr. Green explained to the Royal Geographical Society of London why he could not return the costly instruments it had loaned him, he convulsed that learned body.

But notwithstanding Canada's activity in the field of explorations, the work has only just begun. A recent report of the Geological Survey says that very little precise knowledge has yet been obtained of large districts even in Manitoba. The large colony of Icelanders who recently found new homes between Lakes Manitoba and Winnipeg settled in part upon still unsurveyed lands. As a rule, however, the land surveys have kept far in advance of settlement, and there has been a great decrease of field work since 1887, as the Government sees no reason for staking out the farming lands many years before pioneers will occupy them. Recently, land surveys have been far more actively pursued west than east of the Rocky Mountains until at last they cover the whole of the lands taken up by settlers in British Columbia.