

The source of the Red Deer River is in one of the ranges of the Rocky Mountains in lat. $51^{\circ} 30'$, long. 116° W., and flowing eastward joins the South Saskatchewan near the fourth principal meridian. The following morning after reaching the Mackenzie farm I find it will be two or three days before we can start down the river, so embrace the opportunity offered to visit the village, eight miles up stream, which place we reach by crossing the river on horseback and proceeding along its east bank. Here at the Calgary-Edmonton crossing the stream is rapid and over 470 feet wide. On the east side is situated Red Deer Village, which at that time (1889) consisted of two general stores, one log cabin boarding house and a few other buildings. The principal trade done by the stores is with the half-breed freighters who are constantly passing to and fro between Calgary and Edmonton, a distance of about 170 miles. The country here is beautiful, consisting of rich dark loamy prairie lands broken by clusters of spruce, poplar and other trees. The variety and beauty of the wild flowers are remarkable and makes one loath to leave so charming a spot. But we must return to the Mackenzie farm where Mac and another half-breed are busy calking and pitching the two boats which are to carry us hundreds of miles down part of two remarkable streams. Our boats have been made by half-breed Indians during the spring; they are made of half and one inch planks sawn from trees which grow on the banks of the river in this vicinity. They are rough flat-bottomed boats constructed specially for the journey we are to make.

From the Red Deer Village crossing, eight miles up stream, the river is very crooked with, in places, "cut banks" of alluvial deposits, clays, gravels, and laminated beds in which we found pieces of wood, leaves, and fragments of bone; one seemed to be part of the sucrum of a buffalo; it was found with some flint chip-pings five feet below the surface. A few miles below the Red Deer Village crossing the Blind Man River enters the Red Deer between high "cut banks" and sloping wooded land. This is an interesting locality, as here we find in the calcareous clay slates beautifully preserved leaves of exogenous plants, some of which are closely allied to certain species of plants of the present day. With these are associated several species of delicate ferns and grasses belong-