

formed by this curve in the mountain range, the level of the plateau is broken by several short ranges of mountains, which are really the foothills of the main range.

These foothill ranges are usually low rounded hills seldom rising more than 2,000 feet above the plateau, and more often less than 1,000. Their origin is due to the same orographic movements in the earth's crust which resulted in the upheaval of the Ogilvie range of mountains. The majority of them are anticlinal in structure; but several are due to faulting on a large scale. Mount Deslaurier, nearly opposite the mouth of Hungry creek, is a good illustration of a mountain formed by a normal fault. This is a west facing fault scarp, which rises abruptly to a height of eight hundred and fifty feet, and then slopes back gently to the east at a very low angle. Before erosion of its summit by glacial action the throw of this fault must have been about 1,200 feet. Several others of the same character occur in the area covered by the foothills.

The foothills area extends northward some distance beyond the Peel river, and its eastern border touches the Snake river. Almost in the centre of this is a large basin, covering over five hundred square miles, occupied by almost undisturbed Tertiary rocks. This basin is almost completely enclosed by the encircling foothills, and lies between the Wind and Bonnet Plume rivers, extending southward from the Peel river some fifty miles. Its surface, which is very little above the bed of the Peel river, is perfectly level and dotted with numerous muskeg lakes. The Peel river skirts along the northern edge of the basin, entering it by a cañon and leaving it by a deep narrow gorge.

East of the Snake river the plateau, which is there 800 feet above the river, continues unbroken towards the Mackenzie river. No hills appear to obstruct the view eastward and the plateau stretches away to the horizon with a perfectly level and unbroken sky-line. It is everywhere covered with moss and wooded with small spruce and tamarack, and holds a few muskeg lakes. To the north it follows the base of the range of mountains, and slopes imperceptibly in this direction to the Mackenzie delta. It gradually narrows in width northward, as the Mackenzie river approaches the mountains, until it is forced to disappear altogether a few miles north of the Rat river where the stream skirts the base of the hills.

Evidences of glaciation on the Peel plateau are rather meagre, and though these show that the plateau was actually covered by a large ice sheet during the glacial period, yet no direct evidence, such as could be deduced from striae, as to the direction of the flow of the ice was obtainable. All the mountains occupying the region between the Wind and Snake rivers have been smoothed and rounded off up to a