

Bear Lake Country.

BEAR LAKE COUNTRY which lies some 22 miles Nor-Westerly of Barkerville should receive the attention of all settlers, prospectors and big game hunters.

The Valley is about 18 miles long, is practically clear of timber, has a fertile soil, good climate and situation very favourable for stock raising, grain and vegetables.

There are numerous meadows 10 to 300 acres in extent ready for the plow, and grasses waist high. A little beyond Bear Lake district and from 18 Mile Creek down stream, Bear River Valley is densely forested and that portion as well as 27 square miles around the lakes near the head of the river, has been located for timber limits. When the Grand Trunk Pacific is completed and this timber begins to be logged off and turned into lumber, Bear River ranchers will have a good market at their doors for all they can raise. In the meantime the Barkerville mines affords a good market at most attractive prices.

Independent of the immense agricultural possibilities this great Valley region is the Sportsman's Hunting Ground as moose, goat, deer and bear are quite numerous and last Summer's hunting parties returned with first class bags of game. There is also an abundance of fish in the streams and wild berries are thick in Summer months.

Fort George.

There is an area of two or three thousand acres surrounding Fort George that is suitable for agricultural purposes. Dr. Dawson states that such crops as have been tried succeed well, and the elevation is only about thirty feet above the Fraser. Wheat and grain of all sorts can be grown successfully, as well as large potatoes of a fine quality. He notes that potato stalks, with the exception of the lower leaves, were destroyed by frost on October 10th.

The lower part of the Valley of Chilaco (Mud) River that flows into the Fraser at Fort George, is wide and flat-bottomed, averaging about a mile in width. It forms a deep depression in the generally level surface. There are a good many stretches of open grassy land, heavily covered with tall grass, but generally the valley is heavily timbered. These flats appear as if occasionally flooded, but the soil is very fertile. Among the timber found were many large trees. Douglas fir and Englemann's spruce sometimes reached a diameter of three feet, while cottonwood was found with a girth of five.

Timber and Furs.

One of the resources of the Cariboo country is its timber. Hitherto practically inaccessible and unmarketable it will come to the front now as the most desirable in the province on account of its nearness to the Middle West market. All along the water stretches which are so numerous and extensive in the northern interior there are extensive tracts of timber. A great deal of it was staked before the reserve was placed on timber by the Government, and will now prove a bonanza to those who were fortunate enough to secure limits.

Cariboo and the Northern districts are noted for their many valuable fur-bearing animals and every Winter sees the hardy trapper preparing his traps, snares and baits for the Martin, Beaver, Silver Fox and Skunk which inhabit these parts.