

railway could be constructed through the Selkirks by using the Pass now bearing his name.

All this is a matter of history, and may, or may not, be of interest to the traveller; but it will at any rate serve to remind one of some of the difficulties encountered by these sturdy pioneers who penetrated Nature's strongholds, and it also brings us to a starting point, and that point is the Western portal of the Rockies, and near the site of the oldest cabin in the mountains, Moberly Peak.

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The Selkirk Range.

LOOKING straight South from Moberly Peak, the long silvery glint of the Columbia River is seen for mile after mile winding its way between the two great mountain ranges, here and there throwing off its overflow into broad lakes and serpentine channels, and these in their turn forming miniature continent and island, but ever and anon swinging back to meet the mother stream. Far, far down to the Southward extend the great grey ramparts of the Western slopes of the Rockies, whose scarred spurs reach down to the water's edge, and their hoary heads are mirrored in every lake. But the eye cannot long stray from the magnificent sierra lifted high against the azure of the Western sky. It is the Selkirk range—lofty, rock-ribbed and glacial; their base hidden behind massive folds of foothills, looking almost black beneath the mantle of spruce and fir which sweeps far up the sides of even the central cones; now intercepted by jutting