

RECENT OBSERVATIONS ON THE GLACIATION OF BRITISH  
COLUMBIA AND ADJACENT REGIONS.

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PREVIOUS observations in British Columbia<sup>1</sup> have shown that at one stage in the Glacial period—that of maximum glaciation—a great confluent ice-mass has occupied the region which may be named the Interior Plateau, between the Coast Mountains and Gold and Rocky Mountain Ranges. From the 55th to the 49th parallel this great glacier has left traces of its general southward or south-eastward movement, which are distinct from those of subsequent local glaciers. The southern extensions or terminations of this confluent glacier, in Washington and Idaho Territories, have quite recently been examined by Mr. Bailey Willis and Prof. T. C. Chamberlin, of the U.S. Geological Survey. There is, further, evidence to show that this inland-ice flowed also, by transverse valleys and gaps, across the Coast Range, and that the fiords of the coast were thus deeply filled with glacier-ice which, supplemented by that originating on the Coast Range itself, buried the entire great valley which separates Vancouver Island from the mainland and discharged seaward round both ends of the island. Further north, the glacier extending from the mainland coast touched the northern shores of the Queen Charlotte Islands. The observed facts on which these general statements are based have been fully detailed in the publications already referred to, and it is not the object of this note to review former work in the region further than to enumerate the main features developed by it, and to add to these a summary of observations made during the summer of 1887 in the extreme north of British Columbia, and in the Yukon basin beyond the 60th parallel, which forms the northern boundary of that province.

The littoral of the south-eastern part or "coast strip" of Alaska presents features identical with those of the previously examined coast of British Columbia, at least as far north as lat. 59°, beyond which I have not seen it. The coast archipelago has evidently been involved in the border of a confluent glacier which spread from the mainland and was subject to minor variations

<sup>1</sup> Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc. vol. xxxi. p. 89. *Ibid.* vol. xxxiv. p. 272. Canadian Naturalist, vol. viii.

<sup>2</sup> Bulletin U.S. Geol. Survey, No. 40, 1887.