

ferred without perceiving that the history of ocean and continent is an example of progressive design, quite as much as that of living beings. Nor can we fail to see that, while in some important directions we have penetrated the great secret of nature, in reference to the general plan and structure of the earth and its waters, and the changes through which they have passed, we have still very much to learn, and perhaps quite as much to unlearn, and that the future holds out to us and to our successors higher, grander, and clearer conceptions than those to which we have yet attained. The vastness and the might of ocean and the manner in which it cherishes the feeblest and most fragile beings, alike speak to us of Him who holds it in the hollow of His hand, and gave to it of old, its boundaries and its laws; but its teaching ascends to a higher tone when we consider its origin and history, and the manner in which it has been made to build up continents and mountain-chains, and, at the same time, to nourish and sustain the teeming life of sea and land.

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ON THE CANADIAN ROCKY MOUNTAINS, WITH SPECIAL  
REFERENCE TO THAT PART OF THE RANGE  
BETWEEN THE FORTY-NINTH PARALLEL  
AND THE HEAD-WATERS OF THE  
RED DEER RIVER.<sup>1</sup>

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The term Rocky Mountains is frequently applied in a loose way to the whole mountain region bordering the west coast of North America, which is more appropriately—in the absence of any other general name—denoted as the Cordillera belt, and includes a number of mountain systems and ranges which on the 40th parallel have an aggregate breadth of about one thousand miles. Nearly

<sup>1</sup> Read before Section C, British Association, Birmingham Meeting, 1886.