

Prairie Mountain.

The Finlay River, as already stated, turns to the west above its junction with the Tochieca and breaks a gap about a mile wide through the range bounding the valley on that side. The part of the range adjoining the river on the north, is called Prairie Mountain by the Indians, on account of the bare slope it presents on the southern exposure. An ascent of Prairie Mountain was made. It is a steep-sided flat-topped elevation about 2400 feet high. The aspen and spruce forest which covers the narrow plain at its base extends up its lower slopes for a few hundred feet, above which the trees become more scattered and inclose large grassy areas. The summit of the mountain is covered with low shrubs, varied at intervals with clumps of stunted spruce (*Picea alba*), balsam (*Abies subalpina*) and black pine. Farther to the north the ridge increases in elevation and is surmounted by bare rocky peaks.

View from Prairie Mountain.

From the point ascended, a view of the great valley which holds the Finlay and the Tochieca was obtainable for fifty miles or more in each direction. Northward, as far as visible, it maintains a straight wide course, and is characterized by the same features which prevail below. The range bordering it on the east is regular and well defined, and has an elevation of about 2500 feet above the level of the valley. This is succeeded by somewhat lower round topped ranges, behind which is a series of massive looking limestone mountains forming the summit of the range. The latter support the large glacier from which the Quadaqua issues. Westward, mountains appeared everywhere, apparently increasing in elevation towards the west, and culminating at a distance of forty or fifty miles in a range, the higher peaks of which approach 6000 feet in height. A number of small glaciers appear dotted along this range at the bases of the higher peaks. No plains were visible in any direction.

Rapids.

The Finlay River, after passing Prairie Mountain, bends again to the north-west, and runs for some miles nearly parallel to the continuation of the great valley occupied by it below. The current gradually increases and twelve miles above the mouth of the Tochieca its navigation, except at very low water, is practically stopped by a long cañon. We ascended the cañon for two miles, and then as an examination showed that the river for many miles ahead was simply a succession of cañons, riffles and rapids, it was decided to cache the canoes and continue the exploration on foot.

Long Cañon.

The Long Cañon has a length of about five miles. The river in this distance is frequently narrowed in to less than a hundred feet in width, the constriction often resulting in the production of wild rapids. The walls are irregular and are built partly of Tertiary conglomerates, and