

as the great statesman after whom the monolith was named, loomed over all other Canadian public men. Entering the Auditorium visitors are amply rewarded. This huge chamber is 50 feet wide, with a depth of 60 feet, and having 40 and 50 feet between floor and ceiling. Roofs arched, ceilings exquisitely polished, walls as smooth as though perfected by art—all combine to produce a panorama of fantastic magnificence. And



Approaching the Caves.

this is but the portal, the ante-room opening into more stupendous excavations. Passing through a series of narrow corridors, a vast dome resembling an Italian temple is reached, measuring fully 150 to 250 feet in width, the ceiling and floor being connected by huge white and grey marble columns, progeny of water upon cavern limestone. As rays of light are concentrated upon sections of this marvel of Nature's handiwork, all could readily imagine the effect which will be produced by electrical illumination. The water power for generating electricity within a wide area is estimated to be sufficient to operate trams from the main line of railway to within a reasonable distance of the caves. At the present time trails have been cut, and within a reasonable time all the comforts of modern hotel life will be supplied. Mr. Deutschman at present acts as general guide and supervisor. He is still confident that when the cave channel from Cougar Creek is diverted, outlets will be found miles from the present entrance, for, far away in the bowels of the subterranean wonder, the ceaseless pounding of water is distinctly heard, while without, Bear, Goat and Douglas

Falls add to the grandeur of the crystal flood.

To attempt to classify the various and varying geological features, to follow the course of parallel and oblique galleries, would demand weeks of indefatigable labor. Suffice to say—the solemnity, the gloom, the chaos of water, and wonderful variety of crystals, marble columns, incrustations, the endless recesses—jagged and black mouthed—impart a wierd grandeur, a fascinating charm to this important discovery. In the earlier stages, reporting to the Dominion Government upon the subject, Mr. W. S. Ayres, the Departmental Engineer, stated: "The walls are of solid marble and have been slowly carved during centuries by the ceaseless rush of torrents of snow water." Again, "the whole mountain is honey-combed; further exploration should reveal several even greater chambers and more colossal caverns."

Deutschman, who is an old-time prospector, believed that through the agency of the caves great mineral discoveries would follow, as all the mountains between Mount Stephen (named after the present Lord Mount Stephen) to the North forks of the Illecillewaet, are heavily mineralized—gold, silver, copper, galena, zinc and iron being found, sometimes in paying quantities.



Eight thousand feet above an extraordinary growth of a hardy and beautiful flowering moss was found and a "snapshot" taken, the flower in the photograph being the natural size. Locally it is named "lilac pink flowering moss." Doubtless there are those who will be able to define its proper botanical classification.