

and infolds of Cretaceous rocks occur in this part of the mountains, while at least one isolated area of Paleozoic rocks is found to the east of the main margin of the range. Both the mountains and the adjacent foothills have been subjected to similar parallel folding and disturbance at the same post-Cretaceous orogenic period.*

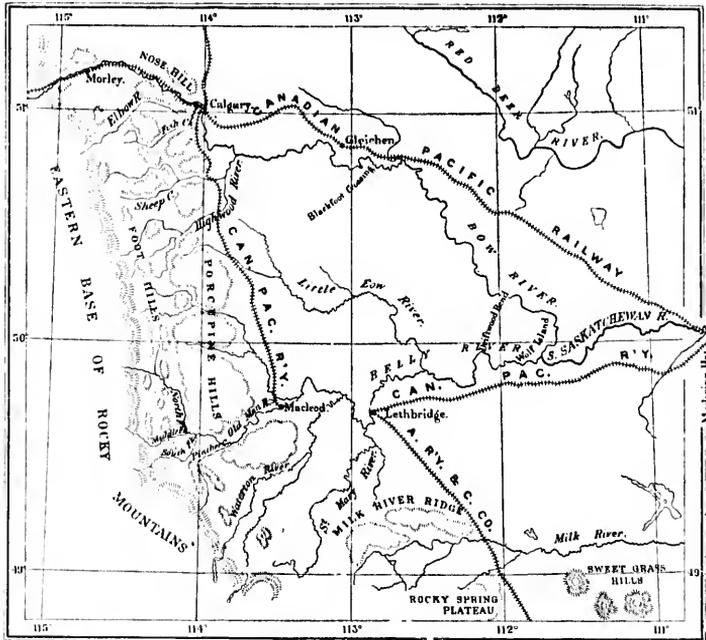


FIGURE 1.—Southwestern Part of the District of Alberta.

The foothill belt varies in width from 10 or 12 miles in its southern part to about 20 miles at the north, in the vicinity of Bow river. Fundamentally, the foothills represent a bordering zone of folded and contorted Cretaceous rocks, reduced by denudation to series of more or less nearly parallel ridges and valleys. The rivers and larger streams from the mountains generally cut across nearly at right angles in wide and relatively low transverse valleys, while the higher ridges and hills occasionally surpass 5,000 feet in elevation.

* For some notes on this and on the Pliocene history of the region, see *Am. Jour. Sci.*, June, 1895, p. 463.