

No. 6.

The Athabasca is navigable for vessels drawing 30 inches of water 10 miles above the mouth of the Clearwater, and steamers of that draught can run that distance. The nature of the obstructions are a number of rapids already mentioned in reply to question No 2.

No. 7.

There are no affluents below the Clearwater navigable, and the Clearwater is only navigable for steamers about 40 or 50 miles. The Athabasca River is navigable for steamers to its mouth.

No. 8.

The river from Lake Athabasca to the head of Fort Smith rapids is more or less rocky, but there are no obstructions, and after leaving the foot of the rapids is a splendid river for steamers all the way to the mouth of the Mackenzie.

No. 9.

We know nothing of the Liard River, except by hearsay.

No. 10.

The Peace River is a fine river for navigation from the Athabasca Lake up as far as Fort Hudson's Hope, or the Rocky Mountain Cannon, a distance of about 700 hundred miles, with the one exception, already mentioned in question No. 3—the falls and rapids near Little Red River. From Hudson's Hope, a distance of about 15 miles, there are a succession of rapids and falls impassible for any kind of craft, even canoes, but after leaving this point, the river is navigable for a distance of about 70 miles to the confluence of the Parsnip and Findlay's branch of the Peace River for small boats carrying from 10,000 to 15,000 pounds, by making portages at several places where there are rapids difficult to pass with loaded boats. The Findlay's branch flowing from the north is navigable only for small boats, as is also the Parsnip flowing from the south, both joining their waters at this point.

Nos. 11 and 12.

The Mackenzie River is navigable from Great Slave Lake to the Arctic Ocean for steamers drawing 5 feet of water, and has an average current of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour. It is from $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile to $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles wide.

About 50 miles above Fort Good Hope there is a shallow or reef extending across the river, and from soundings taken on board the Hudson Bay Company's steamer "Wrigley" on the 28th of August, 1889, there was only one fathom in the shallowest place, however, a channel could be cleared out to the depth of 9 or 10 feet at a small outlay.

No. 13.

Athabasca Lake is a beautiful lake about 100 miles long and 20 wide, navigable for steamers of any size, abounding with fish of different kinds, white-fish being the most numerous, pike, pickerel, sucker and trout, some of the latter fish attaining a very large size.

The shores are generally rocky and barren, with little vegetation, and not at all suitable for agriculture.

No. 14.

Great Slave Lake, like the Athabasca in some particulars, is different, however, in many ways, it being much larger for one thing, and more straggling in appearance; the islands much more numerous and larger than those of the Athabasca Lake. It is suitable for navigation, and steamers with any ordinary draught can ply on it with safety.