



MOUNT PELEE AND YELLOWHEAD LAKE

word-picture of it that ranks among some of his finest efforts. It reads in part as follows :

" The summits on one side of the Athabaska were serrated, looking sharp as the teeth of a saw ; on the other, Roche a'Miette, immediately behind the first line, reared a great, solid, unbroken cube, two thousand feet high, 'a forehead bare,' twenty times higher than Ben An's ; and, before and beyond it, away to the south and west, extended ranges with bold summits and sides scooped out, and corries far down, where formerly the wood buffalo and the elk roamed, and where the moose, big horn and bear now find shelter. There was nothing fantastic in their forms. Everything was imposing. The mighty column of Roche a' Perdrix towered a mile above our heads, scunds of clouds kissing its snowy summit, and each plication and angle of the different strata up its sides boldly and clearly revealed. Miette is the characteristic mountain of the Jasper Valley. There are others as high, but its grand, bare forehead is recognized everywhere. It is 5,800 feet above the valley, or over 8,000 feet above the sea.

" The most wonderful object was Roche a' Miette. That imposing sphinx-like head with the swelling Elizabethan ruff of sandstone and shales all around the neck, save on one side where a corrugated mass of party strata twisted like a coil of serpents from far down nearly half way up the head, haunted us for days. Mighty must have been the force which upreared and shaped such a monument. Vertical strata were piled on horizontal, and horizontal again on vertical, as if nature had determined to build a tower which would reach to the skies.

" There is a wonderful combination of beauty about these mountains. Great masses of boldly defined bare rock are united to all the beauty that variety of form, color and vegetation can give. A noble river with many