

PART III.

RECONNAISSANCE TRIP TO THE NASS VALLEY.

ROUTE TO NASS VALLEY.

In August a short trip was made across the Coast range to the Nass valley to examine some quartz and placer properties staked on the east slope of the Coast range. The trip was made in company with Mr. Porter, a prominent prospector in that region, and Mr. MacIntolmy, a claim owner.

The route followed was up the Bromley glacier to McAdam point, near the southern end of the Cambria range. Here the Bromley glacier divides into three main branches, one swinging to the south along the base of Mt. Trevor towards the high snow-covered pass from Bitter creek to Marmot river, and the two others heading in a long, comparatively narrow snow-field occupying a high longitudinal valley west of the Cambria range and extending southwards for an unknown distance towards the head of Hastings arm of Observatory inlet.

From McAdam point a steep ice slope 1,000 feet high was climbed, then turning to the northeast the snow-filled valley west of the Cambria range was followed, gradually rising for 5 miles to a flat, barely perceptible summit at an elevation of 5,750 feet, then descending slowly at first but with gradually increasing grade towards the Nelson glacier and creek tributary to the Nass. This great snow valley is an important feature of the Coast range. It has a width of from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 miles or more and a length of over 20 miles in a northeast-southwest direction, or nearly parallel to the general trend of the range. The elevation of its snow surface averages about 5,000 feet, and it is bordered by the highest and most rugged mountains in this portion of the Coast range, some of the peaks jutting up through snow-fields to elevations of over 8,000 feet; Mt. Otter, the highest, attaining an altitude of 8,800 feet. Through breaks in the bordering ranges the accumulated snow, compressed into ice, pours westward towards the Pacific and eastward towards the Nass in a series of large glaciers, soon changing as they descend into roaring torrents. The Coast range is singular