

At Lac la Biche, lat 54.45, Captain Butler says:—"The Indians and half-breeds raise an abundance of wheat and other cereals, together with enormous crops of potatoes and garden vegetables." At Little Slave Lake, further West, Professor Macoun says he "found barley in stack on the 12th August." At Fort Athabaska, lat. 56.40, Macoun says he "obtained specimens of wheat and barley which astonished everyone who saw them, many of the ears containing 100 grains, and the weight of both wheat and barley being nearly ten pounds per bushel over the ordinary weight." Further West, in the Peace River district, the proposed railway will traverse from East to West an immense country, which Sir George Simpson terms "the very Eden of our North." At one post on this river, which is navigable for large steamboats for several hundred miles, in lat. 58.24, Macoun says "barley sown on the 8th of May was cut on the 6th of August, the finest I ever saw—many ears as long as my hand." At another post the wheat weighed 68 lbs. per bushel, and oats 58 lbs. Captain Butler speaks of this country as—"A terraced land of rich rolling prairies—a park-like land of wood and glade and meadow, where the jumping deer glanced through the dry grass and trees." Sir Alexander Mackenzie says:—"The country is so crowded with animals (a testimony of its richness) as to have the appearance in some places of a stall yard." Dr. King says:—"The trees are very vast and splendid in their growth. They are like the magnificent trees around Kensington Park, and would bear comparison with any thing of the kind." And yet this magnificent country will be entirely left out by the Government location of the railway, which will run far to the South. The climate of this territory is very favorable. Mackenzie says that on the Upper Peace River the snow had all disappeared on the 5th April, and that anemones were in flower on the 20th of the same month in 1793. Captain Butler says:—"With bud and sun and shower came the

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