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called the Douglas road, now abandoned, starting from the head of Harrison Lake along the Lilloett River, and reaching Lilloett Flat (town site) on Fraser by a beautiful pass upwards of 100 miles in length, separated from Fraser by peaked mountains of considerable height, 4000 to 7000 or 8000 feet. But it is reported to me that similar level benches compared to those at Lilloett exist on the upper waters of the Skeena and other rivers at the northern extremity of the colony.

In Vancouver Island, the only instance of bench formation, of which I am aware is at the gold-diggings, near Sooke, about 20 miles from Victoria, where there are a few miles of benches, in, I think, two or three terraces. So far as I know, these are, however, quite isolated. The bed-rock in this part of Vancouver Island is generally trappeous, often granite, generally full of quartz veins, slightly auriferous, much rounded, and in many places, where exposed, smoothed and grooved in the manner which, I believe, is usually attributed to the action of heavy ice, or glaciers. There is, so far as I can see, very little or no difference in the materials or derivation in any of these benches, scattered as they are over this enormous territory, and at all sorts of heights above the sea-level up to 2500 or 3000 feet, which must be the least height of the benches on Lightning Creek.

But though the whole extent of the formation be vastly greater than at Glen Roy, the Scotch parallel terraces are far longer than any pair of corresponding benches which I recollect here. Until the tamer part of the river is reached, near Alexandria, it is rare to meet with a bench on Fraser River which extends a mile along the stream; while the intricacy of their outline is such that it is very difficult, without actual inspection; or a very good model, which would be both difficult and expensive, to form anything like a correct idea of the formation. A good photograph would be useful, but I cannot find one that has been taken with the slightest reference to these benches, so as to show their number, height, and correspondence on opposite sides of the valley. The formation of all these benches, and the materials of which they are composed are, as above stated, nearly everywhere very similar. It is like what I understand by the term "northern drift;" fine loam at the top, sometimes with an undue proportion of sand, coarser gravel beneath, mixed with water-worn pebbles, some of which (on Fraser and Thomson chiefly) attain almost to the dignity of boulders. Stones from 100 lbs. to 1 ton weight I should say are not uncommon on these two rivers. These are generally of granite, or of a metamorphic slate, sometimes volcanic, a few quartz; all very much