

establish the points at which I have been aiming, viz :—1. FJORDS are in almost every case identical in formation, and were the beds of former glaciers. 2. CAÑONS are formed by the action of river currents. 3. BENCHES are the marks of the successive levels of the river when in the form of a lake, and the successive levels are the results of the sudden breaking down of barriers tending eventually to form the present cañons. 4. PRAIRIES in the interior of America are due to the cause which renders arid the greater portion of the interior of continents, viz., want of rains. 5. INTERMITTENT RIVERS are the result of the dryness of the great basin owing to the moist breezes of the Pacific being intercepted by the peaks of the Cascade Mountains, the melting of the snows, and other minor causes, and the “sinks” of rivers are due to these same causes (especially the drought), and the volcanic cavernous character of the country.

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