

head of Scallon creek, small glaciers have entirely disappeared within recent years.

TRANSPORTATION.

At present the only means of communication with the outside world is by pack train, either to Quesnel, on the Cariboo road, 300 miles to the south, or to Hazelton, fifty-five miles to the north, and thence down the Skeena by river steamer to Port Essington on salt water. Navigation on the Skeena, however, is a very uncertain quantity, as it can be ascended at moderate stages of water only, so that this route can not always be depended on.

At Aldermere, a new town situated on the Bulkley river opposite the mouth of the Telkwa, all ordinary supplies can be obtained and hotel accommodation secured.

To reach the Telkwa district from Aldermere the Bulkley has to be crossed by canoes and horses; the lack of a bridge or adequate ferry is of great inconvenience to travellers, as at high water the crossing is by no means easy.

Up the Telkwa there are a number of trails giving access to the various camps, on most of which the grades are sufficiently light to permit of the construction of wagon roads without much change of route, while Howson camp, near Moose-skin lake, which may be considered as near the centre of the chief mineral-bearing areas, could be reached by a railway from Aldermere without excessively heavy grades, should the ore deposits in that neighbourhood prove of sufficient value to warrant its construction.

As the timber line is reached at an elevation of about 5,000 feet above sea level there is a large area above it where travelling is comparatively easy during the summer months; the geological features also can be more readily examined there than in the valleys, so that the attention of prospectors has been mostly concentrated on these higher levels, and the majority of claims are staked above timber line.

TIMBER.

A great part of this district has been burned over and the original forest replaced by poplar and jackpine, but, in some of the larger valleys, such as that of the Telkwa itself, above Pine creek, and the North and South Fork valleys, much fair timber