

temperate and less barren regions ; so we determined to strike off from the highways of that region—the rivers—and make an overland journey into the unknown.

The first thing to do was to gain the support of the Hudson's Bay Company ; and let it be said at once, nothing that we asked for in the shape of either advice or help was ever denied us. From Lord Lichfield and the officer in charge of the smallest fort we passed, every one who had to do with that great organisation treated us with a real kindness that is not to be explained by any mere consideration of commercial courtesy. Without the Company, one could hardly travel there at all, but the services one is so happy to remember are those voluntarily given, often at considerable cost of trouble to the giver, and always with a spontaneity and goodwill that made the kindness doubly delightful.

The farthest point the railway could take us to was the little town of Edmonton, that lies to the north of the Province of Alberta, and there we arrived on June 7th, 1893. We set to work at once to find some one who could give us information based on personal experience. Judging merely by the map, the Blue-books, and the fur returns we