

growth of willows and alders fills the bottom of the valley, and the sides are fringed with a scattered growth of black spruce which extends a very short distance up the slopes of the bordering mountains. The tops of the mountains are usually about 2,700 feet above the bottom of the valley and consist of massive limestones, interbanded with layers of black slate and shaly limestone. The divide lies about two miles from the forks of Braine creek. Here a small creek heads, and after flowing for two miles through the broad flat valley, passing in its course through three or four small marshy lakes, joins a larger stream coming from the south; the combined streams then flowing in an easterly direction, enter the valley of the Wind river about five miles below. This stream, however, does not, on entering the Wind River valley, unite immediately with the Wind river; but, running parallel with it and in the same wide valley for several miles, connects at almost the same point as Nash creek. In fact, some of the water of Nash creek flows into this creek before its junction with the Wind river. This stream, however, did not appear to be navigable for canoes, and for that reason the eastern pass was not selected.

The floor of the valley is covered with a thick deposit of glacial detritus irregularly distributed throughout its length and breadth. This is either piled up in scattered mounds, or else depressions have been left which are now filled with water. Numerous alluvial fans formed from the wash of the higher slopes project out from the base of the hills on either side.

In the northwestern pass the summit is 350 feet above the forks of Braine creek, and 400 feet above Nash creek, and is situated about half-way between the two points. The distance which the canoes had to be carried was three and a half miles. This pass is a part of the same structural valley that the eastern pass occupies, and a straight line drawn at right angles to the course of the Braine valley below the forks would cut both passes. Like the eastern pass, the northwestern is wide and open, and by following caribou trails through the low scrub the necessity of cutting a trail across was avoided until we got on to the lower flats of Nash creek, where a heavy growth of spruce and poplar was encountered.

On the lower part of Braine creek a few indications of the former presence of travellers or hunters were noted, but, towards the head, none at all. In the wooded flats of Nash creek I noticed several rotting tree stumps that had been cut probably forty or fifty years ago; but nowhere were there any recent signs of human presence.