

Over ... 515

the more so as a branch line to Edmonton, if found desirable, would only be 35 miles long. A straight line from the north of the Eagle Hills to near Jasper's House would therefore be far preferable.

Following this direction, the road would run for the first 20 miles or more between the foot of the Eagle Hills and the Saskatchewan ; and then in a straight line W.N.W. to the south bank of Battle river, near Ear Hill Creek in long. $108^{\circ} 33'$. Crossing the creek, it would follow it a little S. of W., and then run for 30 miles along the south side of "The Chain of Lakes" to the end of Manito Lake, and along two smaller ones beyond ; then south of Eyebrow Hill, where it would cross Eye Hill Creek in long. $109^{\circ} 42'$, and the foot of a lake on Nose Creek, in long. $110^{\circ} 05'$, a stream flowing north from the Neutral Hills. Twelve or fifteen miles further west it would reach Battle river again, and after following the south bank for 6 or 7 miles over a broken country, partially wooded, cross it in long. $110^{\circ} 40'$, lat. $52^{\circ} 45'$. The road would now run north of the Dried Meat Hills, through a country rich, fertile, and clothed with luxuriant vegetation, to Long Lake Creek, a tributary of Battle river, which it would cross in long. $112^{\circ} 50'$, lat. $52^{\circ} 57'$. It would then run north of Beard Hill and across Smoking Wood Creek in long. $113^{\circ} 37'$; north of the Woodpecker Hills, across Pigeon Lake Creek, and for several miles along the south side of this lake, where there is a Wesleyan Mission ; the whole through a country of the richest description. Thence the road would strike to the south end of Bull Lake ; on leaving which it would enter the line of "true forests" in long. $114^{\circ} 05'$, and pass through them for about 30 miles, to the North Saskatchewan. This it would cross about lat. $53^{\circ} 08'$, long. $114^{\circ} 50'$, a little below the rapids, 3,048 feet above the sea, and near its bend towards the east, about 6 miles below the mouth of Brazeau river ; from which point downwards it is believed to be navigable for steamers. Total length from Eagle Hill Creek, allowing for sinuosities,

350

The road would then run due west over easy ground, but covered with dense pine forests, and cross the Pembina at the end of about 80 miles, and the McCleod 40 miles further on ; two clear, shallow streams from the south, flowing over pebbly beds, about 80 feet below the plain. From the McLeod to the entrance of the Pass at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, a few miles north of the Roche à Miette, the country for the last 25 miles becomes gradually more and more rolling and hilly. Distance, allowing for sinuosities,

145

Total distance from Fort Garry	Miles	<u>1,010</u>
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ROCKY MOUNTAINS.

The road now enters the Rocky Mountains, and turning south, passes for several miles between a small lake to the east, and the