

were now anxious to break new ground, if possible, in a country that offered a fair prospect for sport.

It was at this point that a recent map of British Columbia and certain mendacious Canadian Blue-books fell into our hands, and in a moment our plans were laid. 'Unexplored' figured so largely



ROUGH WORK IN THE ROCKIES

and alluringly in one and prodigious accounts of bears, moose, wolves, beavers, cariboo, and other animals so seductively in the other, that we felt to force our way through this untravelled region promised a certain amount of novelty and adventure, while it seemed impossible

that we could pass through the great fur reserve of the world without getting such an amount of sport as would justify the labour of our undertaking.

What Mr. Pike had so courageously done (and so admirably described) in the extreme North, must, it seemed, be a much easier thing to do in more