

applies almost equally well to a much larger tract, and that little or nothing new could have been added if the area had been many times greater. The geological structure, of course, would vary much in every way even if a slightly more extensive area had been surveyed, except in regard to the Quaternary; the flora and fauna less so; while the climatal conditions would remain fairly constant, and only vary locally.

History.—Speaking generally of the Rocky mountains between the latitudes of 49° and $51^{\circ} 30' N.$, Dr. Dawson says in his "Preliminary Report" on that region, that previous to Palliser's expedition in 1857, no maps or knowledge of passes existed south of the Athabasca pass, though the region had been traversed as early as 1810 by Howse. The first published account of travels in the region was by Sir George Simpson. He crossed the Rockies in 1841, and his narrative of the trip appeared in 1847. His description of the country is not clear, nor can many of the places be identified from it. In 1858, Dr. Hector, entering the mountains by the Bow river valley, crossed the watershed by the Vermilion pass, and after following the Vermilion, Kootanie, and Beaverfoot rivers, returned over the watershed by the Kicking Horse pass, which he discovered, and which is the one now used by the railroad. Dr. Dawson, in 1874 and subsequently, retraced all of Dr. Hector's routes, and traversed many others besides. In 1881 the first railroad surveys were made in this region. In 1886 the first tourists were carried across the continent on the Canadian Pacific road. The first published account by a tourist, so far as the writer knows, and, in fact, the only accessible information on the region; except a few short and mostly inaccurate descriptions in guide-books, occurs in the last chapter of Dr. Green's book, 'Among the Selkirk Glaciers.' Here an account is given of his visit to Lake Louise, which therefore falls within the limits of the small region explored by our party in 1894.

Of any previous specific explorations in this region before our work began, or of any mountain ascents, except that of Mount Lefroy, climbed in 1890 by McConnell, we had no knowledge. Nor were we able to obtain any maps of this region, except Dr. Dawson's, the small scale of which rendered it useless for our work. It was, therefore, somewhat in the spirit of pioneers and first explorers that we visited the several valleys mapped. We were always our own guides, as no one could be found who knew anything definite about the passes or mountains. The Canadian Pacific road seems to have appreciated the attractiveness of the Louise region, and, with a view towards encouraging tourists to visit the place, have constructed a waggon road more than two miles in length, connecting Laggan with the lake. Three trails have already been made, leading from the chalet to points of interest in the vicinity.

Geology.—The formations represented are about 3500 feet of Lower Cambrian quartzites, overlaid in the higher peaks by a series of limestones attaining here a maximum section of 2500 feet. A single