

MOUNT ROBSON

[Editor's Note:—As round Mount Robson has centred much mountain-climbing effort, and as an officer of the Geological Survey of Canada took the photograph that is reproduced herewith, we do not apologize for reprinting from that officer's report, the following description.]

Extract from Report on the Geology and Natural Resources of the Country Traversed by the Yellowhead Pass Route from Edmonton to Tete Jaune Cache, Comprising Portions of Alberta and British Columbia, by James McEvoy, B.A.Sc.

Geological Survey of Canada, 1900.

Robson Peak.—Looking up Grand Fork is the most imposing view met with on the whole route. Great mountains are on every hand, but over all stands Robson Peak, 'a giant amongst giants and immeasurably supreme.' This, as well as the following, is from the description of the mountain by Milton and Cheadle.* 'When we first caught sight of it, a shroud of mist partially enveloped the summit, but this presently rolled away, and we saw its upper portion dimmed by a necklace of feathery clouds, beyond which its pointed apex of ice, glittering in the morning sun, shot up far into the blue heaven above.' The top of the mountain is usually completely hidden and rarely indeed is it seen entirely free from clouds.

Height of the Mountain.

The actual height of the peak is about 13,700 feet, or 10,750 feet above the valley. The face

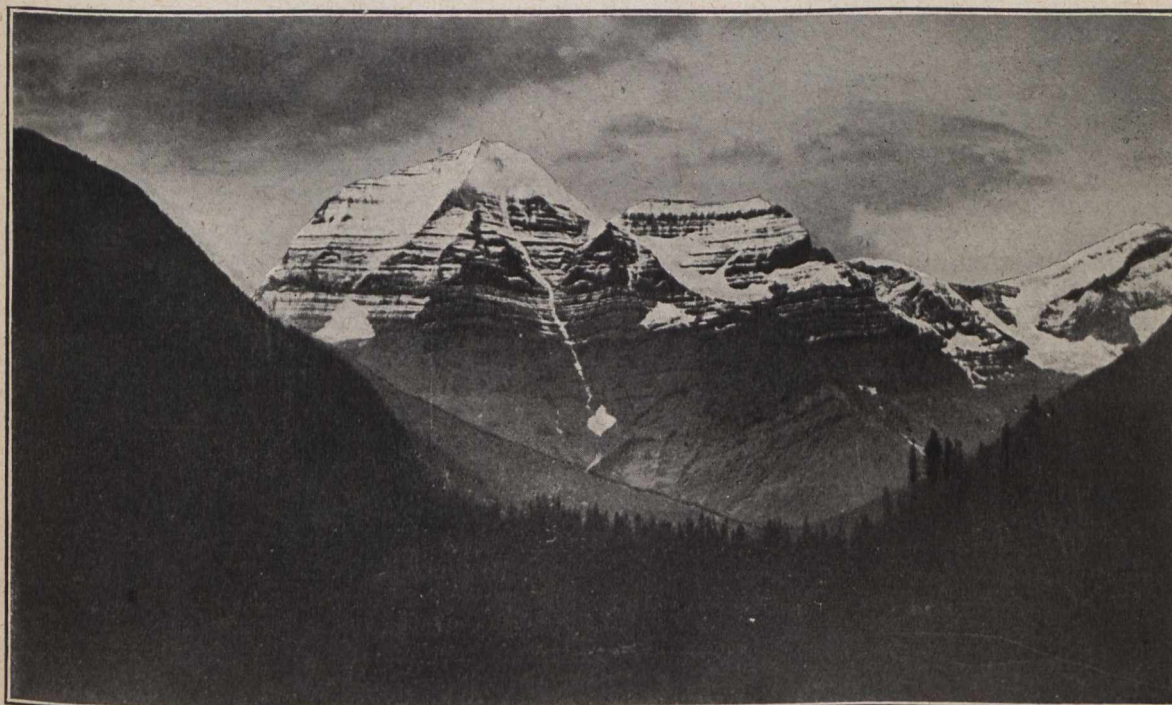
of the mountain is strongly marked by horizontal lines, due to the unequal weathering of the rocks, and has the appearance of a perpendicular wall. From the summit to the base on the Grand Fork, a height of over 10,500 feet, the slope is over 60 degrees to the horizontal.

Although Robson Peak has been long known, its height has never been determined, nor was it supposed to be particularly notable in that respect, but now since the height of Mts. Brown, Hooker and Murchison have been proved to be greatly exaggerated, it has the distinction of being the highest known peak in the Canadian Rockies.

It is interesting to note that in a paper read before the Royal Society of Canada by Dr. G. M. Dawson, the following paragraph occurs:—

"The Kamloops Indians affirm that the very highest mountain they know is on the north side of the valley at Tete Jaune Cache, about ten miles from the valley. This is named Yuh-hai-has-kun, from the appearance of a spiral road running up it." The mountain referred to is undoubtedly Robson Peak, as it is only fifteen miles north from the valley at Tete Jaune Cache. The 'spiral road' is probably an Indian's imperfect description of the horizontal lines on the face of the mountain. As far as can be learned, no one, either Indian or white, has ever succeeded in reaching the summit.

The North-West Passage by Land, pp. 252-253.



BOOK REVIEWS

The Commercial Handbook of Canada and Boards of Trade Register—Eighth Year, 1912—Edited by Ernest Heaton, B.A. (Oxon.), and J. Beverly Robinson—562 pages—Stiff Cover—Price \$1—British Edition, 5 Shillings—Published by Heaton's Agency, 32 Church Street, Toronto—1912.

Each successive year sees this excellent handbook assume more compendious dimensions and more comprehensive character. A list of the contents shows this:—**Official directory**, including the personnel of the Dominion and Provincial Cabinets, members of Parliament, Senate, Departmental Officials, etc.; **Corres-**