

THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

The recent appointment of Dr. G. M. Dawson as director of the Geological Survey of Canada, as successor to Dr. A. R. C. Selwyn, will give universal satisfaction, and the Government of Canada are to be congratulated on having secured one of the ablest geologists as well as administrators to conduct this most important branch of the public service. His long connection with the department, both as assistant director, and, in the absence of Dr. Selwyn, as acting director, will enable him to understand perfectly the requirements of the office. The scientific staff of the department regard the appointment as a well-deserved and fitting promotion, and feel sure that under his able and energetic management the Survey's sphere of usefulness will be enlarged, and, at the same time, its already eminent scientific standing fully maintained. The mining community in general may rest assured that the practical part of the Survey's work will not be neglected, as Dr. Dawson has ever evinced a deep interest in economic geology.

Dr. George Mercer Dawson, C.M.G., F.R.S., A.R.S.M., F.G.S. (L. & A.), etc., etc., was born at Pictou, N.S., August 1st, 1849, and is the eldest son of Sir J. William Dawson, late principal and vice-chancellor of McGill University. He was educated at McGill College and the Royal School of Mines, London, where he was admitted as an Associate in 1872. He obtained the Duke of Cornwall's Scholarship, given by the Prince of Wales; also the Edward Forbes Medal in Palæontology and the Murchison Medal in Geology. His marked scientific zeal and ability early attracted the attention of European geologists, and in 1873 he was appointed as geologist and naturalist to Her Majesty's North American Boundary Commission. As such he investigated the geology and natural resources of the country between the Lake of the Woods and the Rocky Mountains in the vicinity of the 49th parallel.