

ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS.

To the Honourable JOHN BEVERLEY ROBINSON,

Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.

SIR,—The undersigned Commissioners, appointed under the authority of an Order in Council passed on the 3rd day of April, 1880, have the honour to report as follows:—

CHAPTER I.

Origin and Proceedings of the Commission.

The appointment of a Commission "to inquire into the Agricultural resources of the Province of Ontario, the progress and condition of Agriculture therein, and matters connected therewith," was first suggested in the Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, for the year 1879. The Commissioner, at considerable length, set forth the objects to be attained by the step he recommended, and the precedents supplied by the parliamentary history of Great Britain and Canada for such an investigation.

The views expressed in the Commissioner's Report were subsequently embodied in a recommendation to Council, on which recommendation the Order in Council was issued, as already stated.

In the recommendation to Council above referred to, the Commissioner suggested the following subjects as those to which the members of the proposed Commission should be more particularly invited to address themselves:

1. The soil, climate, topographical features, cultivable area, and products, of the several sections of the Province.
2. The progress and condition of husbandry in Ontario.