

# THE CORRUPTION OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

## —IN—

### NORTH-WEST TERRITORY MATTERS.

*To Alfred R. C. Selwyn, L. L. D., F. R. S., Director of the Geological Survey of Canada.*

DEAR SIR:—I have received a copy of your report on the operations of the "Geological and Natural History Survey" of Canada, embodied in the Annual Report of the Department of the Interior, (1) very recently submitted to Parliament.

The extraordinary information therein conveyed enables me to continue with precision the work of unmasking Fraud which I began, as narrated elsewhere, two years ago. (2)

Your statement (3) respecting Dr. Bell's failure to penetrate the vast unknown region quite close to his alleged central point of the Agricultural Lands and the Wheat Area of the North-West, (4) on the edge of the country described by you in Dec. 1882, as "wholly unexplored," and by Dr. Bell in 1880 and 1881, as part of the greatest Wheat Field in the world, (5) proves, with other available evidence, that Dr. Bell's and Professor Macoun's joint representations of very much of the country north of the Saskatchewan, prior to that failure, were gross and well-known misrepresentations. (6)

The boldness of your avowal in the presence of so many powerful pecuniary and political interests hostile to honest scientific delineation and description of the Canadian North-West Territories as to soil, resources and climate, is not merely encouraging but pre-eminently suggestive, and the day will come when Canada will thank you for it, while wondering at your tardiness.

Among the geographical frauds and scientific misdemeanors of Dr. Bell, the Assistant Director of the Survey, in the interests of political speculators and promoters, I may repeat those long since pointed out. (7)

1st.—His false Map of "Hudson Bay and part of the Dominion of Canada" imposed upon the Royal Geographical Society, of London, and published in their Proceedings for Oct., 1881, for nefarious purposes.

2nd.—His misleading statements respecting the Wheat Area, and his assumed centre (longitude 112°, latitude 55°) of the Agricultural Lands of the North-West Territories, as published in the Reports of the Geological Survey of Canada for 1879-80 (page 34c), and in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London, for Oct., 1881, (page 583), and in the Transactions of the Geographical Society of Quebec, in 1880. (page 38) (8) See Dr. Dawson's and Mr. Fleming's Maps in this relation.

3rd.—His misleading paper and map published in the proceedings of the Geographical Society of Quebec, in April, 1880. In this paper the most outrageous statements are made by your Assistant Director respecting the climate of York Factory and part of Hudson's Bay, in the face of the records of "International Meteorology" and Dominion Meteorological Reports. (9)

4th.—His misstatements and misquotations respecting the cultivation of Wheat in the North-West.

5th.—His alleged recent repetition of some of these scientific outrages in evidence before the Immigration and Colonization Committee of the Parliament of Canada, previously furnished with information.

The bribes of unscrupulous men can alone have forced the inventions instanced in the foot-notes. The Geological Survey of Canada asserts these lies through its Assistant Director, in order to enable financial sharpers to raise money for Railways through the land they misrepresent and "boom," and for other, but similar purposes.

To enumerate the misdemeanors and scientific tricks of Professor Macoun, the Botanist and Natural History Collector to the Survey, would require many folios. They are of such a character as can not escape the notice of any well-read scientific man giving due attention to the subject, particularly as displayed in his recent work, entitled "Manitoba and the Great North-West." Those which relate to climate involve the selection and application of incompatible elements, and the drawing of broad generalizations from them. The falsification and altering of recorded data and submitting conclusions therefrom. The description of enormous tracts of country he never saw. The ignoring of acknowledged, and the adoption of disproved data, on which to base his conclusions. The misquotations of responsible authors and the adaptation of those misquotations to prove his fallacious and misleading representations. With numerous minor frauds of very disreputable character.

Of course the acceptance and propagation of these palpable frauds is equivalent to connivance, because they are used to obtain money under false pretences, or to induce Immigration. The Geological Survey of Canada, does not sanction and promote these scientific and practical delusions for Truth's sake, or in the interests of science, or with the object of dispensing reliable knowledge. It is for fraudulent purposes the thing is done.

(1) Annual Report of the Department of the Interior for the year 1882. Part II. Geological and Natural History Survey. Dated 31 Dec., 1882.  
(2) See Documents enumerated in No. II, III and IV, addressed respectively to Mr. Lowe of the Department of Agriculture, dated 24 Feb., 1883; the Chairman of the Committee on Immigration and Colonisation, Feb. 29, 1883, and to His Excellency the Governor General, dated Feb. 28, 1883; all being published in a pamphlet entitled, "Manitoba and the North-West Frauds. Correspondence with the Department of Agriculture, &c., &c., respecting the impostures of Professor John Macoun and others; by Henry Youle Hind, M. A."

(3) See Annual Report of the Dept. of the Interior for 1882. Part II—page 1.  
(4) See Geological Survey of Canada—1879-80—page 34c.

(5) See Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society (for October, 1881, page 583; also page 98 of a "Lecture" delivered before the Geographical Society of Quebec on the 22nd April, 1880, and published in the Transactions of the Society; also Geological Survey Report cited in note (1).  
(6) See Mr. Bedford Fleming's Official Maps of that part of the country published in his Reports for 1879 and 1880; also Dr. G. M. Dawson's large Map of Part of British Columbia and the North-West Territory, sheet III—Geological Survey of Canada—Report for 1879-80—the year prior to Dr. Bell's statement in the Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society.

(7) See Documents cited in letters II, III and IV in accompanying pamphlet on "Manitoba and North-West Frauds"—Correspondence with the Department of Agriculture, &c., &c.  
(8) Hence there can scarcely be said to be a northern limit to the wheat growing region in this direction, but rather an eastern limit.

(9) The post paragraph quoted in certain English papers is the following:—"Not only is there less snow in the country on the west side of Hudson's Bay, near York Factory and Fort Churchill, for example, than in the regions to the south, but the cold appears to be less intense." This deluding and misleading paragraph was written by the Assistant Director of the Geological Survey of Canada when the Dominion Meteorological Reports and the Bulletin of "International Meteorology" showed the mean temperature of York Factory to be as follows—1876, annual mean 15° 7'; 1876, 18° 40'; mean of 1877, 78 and 79, 12° 5'; showing one of the coldest climates in the world occupied by civilised men.