

to the Department of the Interior. The effect of this may not be felt for a time, but it must eventually tend to deprive the Survey of its independent scientific action, to diminish its importance and consideration abroad, and perhaps in the end to reduce it to a mere industrial bureau, or to place it in the uneasy position of that American Survey of the Territories, which is in like manner attached to the Department of the Interior: but which is there supplemented by the military surveys, and by the surveys of the several states, some of which in their scientific results have far surpassed it. There can be no doubt that considerations of this kind weighed with the eminent and sagacious Canadian who founded the Survey and raised it to its present position of importance, in inducing him so strenuously to oppose its removal to Ottawa. It is to be wished that his fears may not be realised; but I cannot refrain from expressing my own strong conviction that these fears were well founded. The clause providing for the removal of the Survey is, however, not mandatory but only permissive. The carrying it into effect would involve a large expenditure and most serious loss, and would certainly contribute something to the cry beginning to arise, not only in this Province but in those of the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, that this country is governed, not in the interests of the Empire or of the Dominion in its whole extent, but in those of a section of the people of Ontario. Let us hope that wiser counsels may prevail, or that some turn of the political wheel may suggest other measures or bring in other men.

The report of the Chairman of Council was next read by Mr. G. L. Marler.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL.

At the close of another session, your Council beg to submit the following short summary of its proceedings during the year, with an occasional note on other matters connected with the business working of the Society.

A field-day was held at Belœil Mountain on Saturday, June 10th, 1876, which was attended by about eighty persons, and a very enjoyable day was spent. It is to be regretted, however, that the receipts on this occasion were not sufficient to meet the necessary expenditure, a circumstance probably owing to the unfavourable aspect of the weather at starting