

diverted into colonization surveys, natural history, &c., to the prejudice of legitimate geological work.

"I trust the above may prove of service to you, and will be pleased to hold myself at your further commands.

"I remain, yours obediently,

"EDWARD GILPIN, JR.,

"*Government Inspector of Mines, Province of Nova Scotia.*"

"R. N. HALL, Esq., M. P.,

"*Chairman of Committee Geological Survey, Ottawa.*"

"BELOIR, WISCONSIN, 22nd March, 1884.

"DEAR SIR,—In reply to your question, I would answer: (1) That there is, in my judgment, no question as to the desirability of procuring and preserving mineral statistics; (2) Nor as to the importance of calling special attention to the various economic resources of industrial development. (3) This, in my judgment, can be best done as a department of the Geological Survey.

"I sincerely hope that your Parliament may enact suitable laws for securing to your large domain the benefits of an organized bureau of industrial mineral and mining statistics.

"Yours very truly,

"T. C. CHAMBERLIN,

"*State Geologist.*"

"ROBERT N. HALL, M.P.,

"*Chairman, Ottawa, Canada.*"

"KINGSTON, 22nd March, 1884.

"DEAR SIR,—In reply to your circular of 19th March, I beg to state that I have published no works bearing on geology, except a very brief outline of 'The Geology of the Maritime Provinces,' and a list of 'The useful Minerals of the Maritime Provinces' in Roe's 'Atlas of the Maritime Provinces.'

"1st. Large areas of the Dominion are useless for agricultural purposes, but rich in mineral wealth. The utilization of such regions is desirable in the interests of the country, and would add materially to its prosperity. I am, therefore, of opinion that 'procuring and preserving mineral statistics' would be useful for the purpose of calling the attention of capitalists and others interested in mining to the amount and value of the work performed from year to year in different localities.

"2nd. The 'calling of special attention to the various minerals of economic interest, their application, their extraction, and their treatment,' and permit me to add, their localities, would furnish parties desirous of engaging in mining operations with valuable information which could only be obtained otherwise at great expense, or probably, not at all. The reliability of such information is of prime importance.

"3rd. Though the general character of the work required to be done by a 'Bureau of Mineral Statistics' differs from that of a 'Geological Survey,' a subordinate department ought to be sufficient to perform the work required. Much of the information desired is obtained by the Survey, and the duties of some members of the staff coincide very nearly with those which would devolve upon members of a new department. Some means by which parties finding ores could ascertain their value without much trouble or outlay is very desirable.

"I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,

"JAMES FOWLER,

"*Lecturer on Nat. Science, Queen's College, Kingston.*"

"ROBERT N. HALL, Esq., M.P.,

"*Chairman of Committee on Geological Survey.*"