

## Memorandum.

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At the fifth Annual Meeting of the Association of Dominion Land Surveyors, held at Ottawa, on the 14th and 15th of March last, a Committee was appointed to consider the question of a Trigonometrical Survey of the Dominion, to draft a scheme for its inception, and to take such steps as they might deem advisable to bring the subject under the notice of the Government, and of others likely to be interested in this much needed work.

The Committee beg to submit the following in reference thereto :

The Dominion has now arrived at that stage when the wants of the country demand a more exact system of survey than that in vogue.

The question of the value and utility of a trigonometrical survey has been so settled by almost every civilized nation, that it is hardly necessary to advance proof of the statement that it would be of immense practical value to the whole Dominion ; but for illustration, and in support of the statement, the following facts are offered.

The surveys of this kind, which have been made by other countries, may be briefly referred to.

First and foremost is the Ordnance Survey of Great Britain and Ireland, covering nearly 111,000 square miles, which was begun in 1784 and is now nearing completion. Then comes the great Trigonometrical Survey of India, inaugurated at the beginning of the present century by Colonel Lambton, which is still in progress, and of which the beneficial results have been inestimable. Belgium is carrying on a survey which, when completed, will furnish 450 sheets of map on a scale of  $1:25,000$  with contour lines one metre apart.

Prussia is carrying on an extensive survey, and since 1849 has introduced new and more perfect methods. Russia, with its enormous territory, about twice the size of the United States,