

Geological Survey Department.

adian Government. Its value is duly recognized, but the inferiority of the accommodation accorded to it in comparison with that given elsewhere to similar collections, presents itself as a subject of criticism and of regret. Quotations from the published remarks of visitors given in previous reports need not here be repeated, and it is to be hoped that in future it may not again be necessary to cite them.

The meeting in Toronto, in August last, of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the arrangements for which were materially assisted by the Canadian Government, afforded an opportunity for the presentation and discussion by specialists of various topics connected with the geological investigation and economic development of Canada. This meeting was the second occasion on which the Association has been assembled in a city beyond the limits of the British Islands, the first having been in Montreal in 1884, and although the International Geological Congress, held simultaneously in St. Petersburg, attracted many geologists who would otherwise have been present, it was attended by a number of well known geologists, mineralogists, geographers and others, from Great Britain, the United States and other countries. Meeting of the British Association.

Such members of the Geological Survey as were not precluded by the remoteness of the scene of their operations at the time, were enabled to attend the sessions of the Association, and a number of papers were read by them on subjects connected with their work. At the close of the meeting, in addition to other excursions of more local interest, arrangements were made by favour of the Canadian Pacific Railway and with the aid of the Local Committee and the Provincial Governments, for a journey to the Pacific Coast, with special facilities, for the officers of sections and other prominent members. It was arranged that the third, or geological party should stop at various points of interest on the way west, and the result of this particular excursion cannot fail to exercise an important influence in making known, in the most practical way, the important developments now in progress in the country. Geological excursions.

In this connection it may be appropriate to allude particularly to the opening words of Professor Roberts-Austen, Chemist and Assayer to the Mint, in his lecture on Canada's metals at the Massey Hall, in which he conveyed a high tribute to the work already done for Canada by its Geological Survey; and to an article in *Nature* (London), devoted to the trans-continental excursion, in which the following passage occurs: "Then let us set down our admiration for the work of the Canadian Geological Survey. Considering the means at its com- References to work of the Geological Survey.