
OTHER EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

Since my appointment in October, 1886, as Director of the Canadian Experimental Farms I have been three times to the Maritime Provinces and twice to Manitoba, the North-West Territories and British Columbia. These journeys were undertaken for the purpose of gaining information as to the character of the soil, the nature of the climate and the present condition of agriculture in the several Provinces, also to examine the most promising of the sites offered for the proposed experimental farms, so that information might be available which would aid in determining where they might be best located, for the present and future benefit of the resident farmers. Although this labour has been beset with many difficulties, it is hoped that the careful attention which has been paid to this important part of the undertaking will prepare the way for the selection of suitable lands in desirable locations where the work contemplated can be carried on to the greatest advantage and where it will give that constant and needed stimulus to agriculture which is required.

FOR THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

A site for the experimental farm for the Maritime Provinces has been selected at Nappan, Nova Scotia; a very central point for the three Eastern Provinces. The farm consists of 302 acres in all, and combines a sufficient area of cleared land for all farm and horticultural experiments, with wooded land for shelter from prevailing winds. It has a suitable soil, of varied character, and a sufficient proportion of both "English" and "broad leaf marsh" land to meet the requirements for stock. It has excellent railway facilities, the main line of the Intercolonial crosses the front of the farm, which is not more than half a mile from the railway station at Nappan. The central position of this farm, and its railway advantages will make it easy of access to visitors from all the Maritime Provinces, it is also so situated as to climate as to be fairly representative of the largest area of territory in the three Provinces. It is intended as soon as possession can be had that prompt preparations shall be made for spring work. New varieties of cereals, grasses and hardy fruits are much needed in some parts of the Maritime Provinces, these lines of experiment will early claim attention. It is hoped that the other experimental farms which it is proposed to establish will also be selected in time to admit of active operations as soon as the spring season opens.

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