

## APPENDIX C.

DEPARTMENT OF SECRETARY OF STATE OF CANADA,  
DOMINION LANDS OFFICE,  
OTTAWA, March 1st, 1872.

SIR,—I have the honor to submit the following Report on the operations of this branch since its establishment on the 7th March last.

A few preliminary remarks, however, on the extent and general character of the territory which has lately become the property of Canada, with the management of which, designated as Dominion Lands, this branch has been charged, will prove, at the present time not uninteresting.

The extent of the territory is immense, as will appear from the following estimate of areas which has been made up from the most reliable data.

The total area is calculated within the coast lines as laid down on the admiralty charts, and is exclusive of Labrador and the islands in the Arctic sea.

The classification of productive areas is based upon the most reliable practical evidence so far attainable, that is to say: reports of official explorations, information obtained from the Hudson's Bay Company's posts, from mission stations, and from other trustworthy sources.

## STATEMENT OF AREAS DOMINION LANDS.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
Unavailable for cultivation, being the portion of the great American Desert, which extends into British Territory.	Prairie country. The greater part of which is unsurpassed for agricultural purposes, with occasional groves, and belts of timber.	Timbered land, with occasional large prairies (as in Peace River District) adapted for growth of wheat and other cereals. Possesses abundance of timber.	Belt lying outside of No. 2 and 3, (or agricultural zone proper), in which potatoes, barley, and grasses may be successfully cultivated. Sufficiently supplied with timber.	Rock and swamp, barren lands, in which the timber growth extending up from south gradually disappears. Fur producing region.
Square miles, 50,000 In acres, 32,000,000	Square miles, 120,000 In acres, 76,800,000	Square miles, 466,225 In acres, 298,384,000	Square miles, 928,200 In acres, 594,048,000	Square miles, 642,300 In acres, 411,072,000

Shewing a total area of 2,206,725 square miles, equal to 1,412,304,000 acres, of which, saying nothing of tracts 1 & 4 above, (which are of more or less value for grazing and other producing purposes), we have 2 & 3, containing 375,184,000 acres of agricultural land, and the greater part of which is beyond question specially well adapted for wheat growing.

The winter climate is somewhat severe, but not more so than in parts of Ontario and Quebec; on the other hand, the country is undoubtedly one of the healthiest in the world, and the particular portion to which allusion has just been made, is calculated to sustain a farming population of many millions of souls.

## SURVEYS.

The system of survey adopted was fixed by Order in Council on the 25th of April last, and steps were at once taken to organize and prosecute the surveys in the field with energy.

A manual of survey, setting forth the system in detail, and containing standing