

APPENDIX.

The Northwest of Canada is so vast and the local characteristics so diverse that it is very evident that the Federal Government, in order to legislate in the best interests of Western people must be possessed of better and more complete information than they are able to obtain from the few Senators and members of the House of Commons, who are sent to Ottawa to represent the whole of Greater Canada. They cannot, and it ought not to be expected of them, know very much of the minutiae of this great country. Surveyors and engineers sent out in the interests of railway companies have but a cursory knowledge of the country, other than that which the companies who employ them are directly interested in, often not in the best interests of the people. In this country, where there are fifty-seven languages spoken; this vast region containing the largest lakes and rivers, the greatest and richest mineral deposits in the world; with an agricultural area much larger and incomparably more fertile than that in China; the production of food stuffs that feed four hundred millions of people; any and all information should be at the hand of every