

the Territories, but of the States, which undertakes to investigate geological questions irrespective of the investigation of localities. One of the features of the Canadian Survey (with a few exceptions) during later years, has been to send parties exploring all over a vast territory, with the general omission of special work, which will stand the tests of time. In fact, most of the recent work (for the last dozen years) can be considered only as a reconnaissance, and it will be necessary to go over it again, and in this way the usefulness of the work falls far short of its character prior to 1870.

"One of the most prominent features of the United States Survey has been to investigate principles and publish *memoirs* which render our Survey famous throughout the world, but which the Canadian Survey, in recent years, almost entirely lacks. (Being a Canadian, I feel justified in my criticism). The manner in which the reports are published falls far short of their greatest utility.

"I would suggest that there should be a department of mining statistics, under the direction of an assistant director of the Survey, whose duties will embrace the collecting of information on mining and quarrying, and economic minerals generally, and that the reports shall refer to each Province separately.

"The Survey should publish full monographs on Canadian fossils, whether of old or new species. Also, it should lend aid to special writers, and publish their works free of cost, as has been done by the United States Survey, as many of these studies would cost too much for private enterprise. At the same time, this character of expenditure would be of great service to the scientific world, and elevate the character of the Survey.

"These remarks do not apply alone to fossils, but in the various explorations collections of minerals should be made, and monographs on various departments of natural history should be published.

"There should be published, from the various reports already made, final reports on various subjects in each Province. These reports should not be a compilation of the various reports, nor a synopsis of them, but full reports on various subjects, with the verbose utterances left out, as referring to each locality.

"Further, the Survey should have more field officers in proportion to the house or home officers, and that while some of them may be engaged in general explorations, others should be occupied in making complete surveys of those localities which demand most immediate attention, or in investigating special subjects.

"I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

"ROBERT N. HALL, Esq., M.P.,

"J. W. SPENCER."

"Chairman of Committee of Investigation of Canadian Geological Survey."