

facts and specimens. Accordingly, his reports sometimes contain as many as a dozen appendices on all kinds of subjects of importance and interest to our country. The floras and faunas met with, the insects and crustacea, the shells of the land and of the sea, weather reports and other interesting meteorological observations; as well as the fossil organic remains of the district which he visited, he ever looked after most carefully, for he truly knew their great value as horizon-markers. He not only submitted these various collections to specialists and authorities throughout the country and abroad from whom he received further information from time to time but examined and described them himself.

Later, in the Report of Progress for 1878-79, he gives notes on the geology of areas drained by the Red and Assiniboine Rivers in Manitoba, and also describes the Coal deposits of the Lignite Tertiary of the Souris River, from the Great Valley and Porcupine Creek. The report of his explorations on the Skeena and down the Peace in 1879 are embodied in the Report of Progress for the year 1879-80, which is entitled "A report on exploration from Port Simpson to Edmonton, by the Peace River." Much important astronomical data has been furnished the government by Dr. Dawson during his numerous voyages and explorations which serve to fix the latitude and longitude of distant places on our Map of the Dominion.

In 1882 Dr. Dawson visited Europe where he carried on studies having for their object the utilization of the lignites of the West as fuels, and the results of his researches were embodied in a subsequent report.

For a knowledge of the forests of British Columbia the country is under a great debt to Dr. Dawson. He sought not only to bring forward the immense value which they prove to possess but also to point out the best means to preserve such a grand heritage. In the Districts of Alberta and Assiniboia he did much to reveal their hidden geological structure and economic resources, especially as far as coal is concerned. Up to 10,000,000 tons of coal to the square mile for hundreds of square miles of territory he has described and reported, and time will only serve to emphasize the accuracy of his carefully sought out facts from the bosom of Nature which was ever ready to yield her secrets to him