

gold-bearing rocks and auriferous gravels of different ages, and tracing the relations of the latter to the Miocene of the colony and the older rocks. Two of the most important conclusions arrived at, and which were afterwards amply verified by experience, were the permanence and depth to which the auriferous veins of Australia could, and probably would, be profitably worked. The second was the extension of the auriferous deposits beneath the overlying Tertiary lavas of the plains. In addition to his regular work in Victoria he undertook special examinations of the Tasmanian and South Australian coal and gold fields. He was appointed one of the Victorian Commissioners of Mines in 1856; a member of the Board of Science and of the Prospecting Board in 1858; a commissioner for the Victorian International Exhibition in 1861; a commissioner for the London Exhibition in 1862; a commissioner for the Dublin Exhibition in 1865; and a commissioner for the Paris Exposition in 1866. For seventeen years (1852 to 1869) he was untiring in the discharge of his duties as Director, travelling over the colony and making detailed examinations of its geological structure. In the latter year, however, he retired from this position, the survey having been brought to an abrupt close by the Colonial Legislature refusing to vote the necessary supplies to carry on the work.

Selwyn, however, was not allowed to remain any length of time idle, for that same year (1869), on the retirement of Sir William Logan, he was chosen by the Canadian Government, on the latter's recommendation, to succeed him in the Directorate of the Geological Survey of Canada. He arrived in Canada in October, 1869, and took charge on the 1st of December following. On the 2nd of May, 1870, he issued his first "Summary Report of Progress on Geological Investigations," in which, after making mention of the work of the various geologists associated with him, he announces that "It has been decided to institute in connection with the Geological Survey a systematic collection of records of mines, and of statistics of the production and consumption of minerals in the Dominion." He invites the co-operation of all persons interested in mining to promote the object in view. A form was also printed for circulation amongst mine owners and managers, asking for prompt answers and returns to the Geologi-