

Already have these surveys contributed millions in value to the productive industry of the land, and every year their importance is more and more demonstrated and acknowledged."

Many of the influential men in the Hon. Legislature of this Province have honoured me with their subscriptions to my work, and I am happy to observe that a liberal sum has since been appropriated by it, for a geological survey of the Province, which I have no doubt, if performed with diligence and zeal, may discover great sources of industry and wealth for it.

I now proceed to give an account of the theory which the late discoveries of this and other sciences have suggested to me of the geological formation of our globe, and of the system of creation I had formed.

In the year of our Lord 1819, I returned to the land of my birth, the Canadas, after an absence of nigh forty years in England and Nova Scotia, during which, I had undergone great misfortunes in an extensive line of mercantile business.

The pleasing sensations I felt on this return to my native country, may have been experienced by many; the intensity with which I felt them, may have been occasioned by so long an absence; and having now, as it were, fallen into the calm and pure resort of nature, the woods of Lower Canada, I was never more happy than in the study of her works. From early youth I had been fond of the science of chemistry; and now, some books of geology fell into my hands: with them I frequently compared the appearances I met with in my walks, which, being in unison with these books,