

not fully convey a correct idea of the energy and determination displayed.

Besides extensive land surveys in Manitoba, the boundary line between Canada and the United States has been defined from end to end. This was done by a joint Commission appointed by both countries. The British section of the commission was in command of Major D. R. Cameron; the work occupied three years, and after it was finished the reports furnished, including scientific papers, by Captains Anderson, Featherstonhaugh, and George M. Dawson, have largely extended our knowledge of that portion of the country adjoining the southern boundary line from the Lake of the Woods to the Rocky Mountains. A boundary survey west of the mountains had been previously effected.

The foregoing sketch of the early discoveries of different independent portions of North America, which together make up the Dominion of Canada, and the reference to the various explorations and surveys which from time to time have been made in different parts, will enable members of the Institute to judge of the value of the information, geographical and physical, which has been acquired respecting much of the country. The several provinces on the Atlantic sea-board, and the valley of the St. Lawrence, are well known, and have already been described at a former meeting. The southern margin of the country, extending from these provinces westerly to the mountains, has been examined with the greatest care by the Royal Commission appointed to define the boundary between Canada and the United States. The Canadian coast on the Pacific, with its many deep fiords, flanked in some instances by mountains reaching the limits of perpetual snow, has been the subject of repeated explorations. The northern side of the country, with its long summer day and its equally long winter night, has been visited in nearly every part by brave indefatigable men, who, after perils and privations of no ordinary kind, have mapped it out, and left it again to the silence and desolation which pervades the Arctic circle. The interior is so vast that it cannot be said to have been completely examined. There are still some districts where the foot of civilised man has not yet stepped, but, as I have shown, explorers have been in many directions, adventurous men have penetrated the gloomy recesses of the primeval forest, have peered into the rocky fastnesses of the mountains, and, with unflagging toil and unflinching endurance, have gained for us a general and reasonably correct knowledge of much of the country.

I shall not venture to weary you with many details, but shall en