

necessary that as much information as possible should be acquired of the interior of a Province, which had never been explored, with reference to the discovery of its natural productions, the quality of the soil, and the advantages it offered for settlement.

In the topographical part of the present Report, the soil, forests, and indigenous plants of the tracts explored, will be briefly noticed; also the rivers and lakes, with the facilities they offer for internal communication. Sites for canals, railroads, bridges, mills, &c. will also receive a passing remark, with a view to make the country better known and to develop its true features.

It will be seen in the body of the Report, that an immense extent of country, penetrated by fine navigable rivers, two of which are a hundred and fifty miles in length, is still uninhabited, and millions of acres of excellent land are unoccupied even by the native Indians.

The geological part of the work will contain a description of the rocks, minerals and soils of the country examined, with some remarks on the numerous fossils contained in many of the strata.

It was observed that the inhabitants in the new settlements were unacquainted with any proper method of burning lime, which may be advantageously employed in agriculture; and, therefore, directions for calcining and applying lime to the soil, have been appended to the geological part of the Report.

An incomplete Geological Map of the Province is also submitted for Your Excellency's consideration. By this it will be observed that the labour of another season will be required to bring the geological survey to a conclusion; and it is very desirable that the undertaking should be finished in the same spirit in which it was commenced.

In the performance of the duty I was called upon to undertake in reference to the exploration of the territory recently in dispute between Great Britain and the United States, I have been able, with the assistance of my son, to carry on the geological reconnoissance of the upper country; and, under a due allowance for the difficulties and hardships attending the survey of an uninhabited wilderness, I have no doubt that the whole will meet with a favourable consideration.