

office, in the first place, and the appointment of Professor Robertson as Commissioner.

In April, 1889, a convention of representative delegates from all the leading dairy associations of the Dominion was held at Ottawa. The object of this convention was to form a Dairy-men's Association for the Dominion of Canada. The convention was in every way a successful one. The association was formed, and it included in its first directorate leading dairymen from every part of the Dominion. During the progress of the convention a committee from the association appeared before the House of Commons Select Standing Committee on Agriculture and

Mr. S. A. Fisher, M.P. for Brome, and now Dominion Minister of Agriculture, was the mover of a resolution of similar import.

Subsequently an audience was granted by the Premier of the Government, Sir John Macdonald, Mr. Carling the Minister of Agriculture, and Mr. Mackenzie Bowell and other members of the cabinet, to a deputation from the association. At this audience the claims of the dairying interests of the country were preferred by Mr. D. M. Macpherson, of Lancaster, Mr. H. S. Foster, of Knowlton, Quebec, Professor Robertson, then of the Guelph Agricultural College, and others. The address of Professor Robertson was so apt,



Professor Robertson in his Plot of Ensilage Corn.
A part of his 40-acre lot, 1893.

urged the claims of the dairying interests of the country to increased attention and aid on the part of the Government. As a result of that appeal a resolution was passed by the House of Commons Committee as follows :

"That in view of the extension and importance of the dairy industry of Canada, and the necessity of protecting its interests, the committee thinks it its duty to recommend the appointment of a dairy commissioner, whose duty it shall be to watch over and promote, as far as possible, the progress of the different branches of this important part of the national industry."

Dr. Sproule, M.P. for East Grey, was the mover of this memorable resolution.

so logical, so full of illustrative evidence, that it had great weight with the members of the cabinet present, and the Premier, Sir John Macdonald, asked Professor Robertson to prepare a memorandum for the use of the government, setting forth the views which had been presented by the deputation.

Professor Robertson's Memorandum.

This *Memorandum*, drawn up by Professor Robertson, was the most lucid presentation of the growing importance to the country of the dairy industry, and the most cogent argument in favor of government assistance being given to it, that