

“ The disadvantage under which all lay, nearly alike after the fires passed, was the difficulty the various parties had in keeping their horses used for transport. Very few patches of grass remained, they were often obliged to carry hay feed long distances.”

“ The fires and their disastrous effects had been barely got over when there was another interruption to the steady prosecution of the work: I allude to the Fenian Raid.”

“ The difficulties and the delays set forth above, encountered by the surveyors would not have been dwelt upon at such length did not justice to them, when judging from the amount of their work done, require it.”

“ The total amount of the seasons work reckoning it by mileage of line surveyed is to the nearest mile as follows:—

“ Block Surveys .....	1207 miles.
“ Sub-division Surveys .....	1406 „
“ Settlement Surveys equivalent to of above sub-division line	1200 „

“ Total..... 3813 miles.”

“ This amount of line surveys into farm lots shows an area of 1,535,530 acres or in round numbers a million and a half of acres.”

“ The annexed schedule marked A, gives details of townships, sub-divided whole and fractional, also of base and correction lines with their intersecting meridian exteriors surveyed up to present time.”

“ As will be seen on reference to the Surveyors' returns, but a trifling portion of the area surveyed is other than first class land.”

“ The swamps or marshes that are occasionally met with are nearly, if not quite, as valuable as the drier arable land seeing that they give without the least trouble of cultivation extremely rich hay meadows.”

“ With respect to wood for fuel, fencing, building &c., the returns of survey so far show but a moderate portion of forest, but it is to be borne in mind that the sub-division surveys especially have as yet been nearly altogether confined to the prairie portions of the Province. Whilst the block surveys—though they have reached wooded sections have not yet extended sufficiently over them to give full information as to the kind and quantity of wood to be counted upon.”

“ The following are generally well known as the parts of the Province that will be the principal sources of supply within its limits. Commencing at the eastward the thickly wooded country extends from north to south across all that portion of the Province that would be comprised between its eastern boundary and an irregular line varying from ten to twenty miles east of the Red River. Poplar, spruce and tamarac would be the prevalent timber in these woods; as to dimensions, it is not likely that anywhere in this section a higher than fourteen inch average diameter of saw logs could be got whilst much of it would not furnish even that, still though small the timber of all kinds is unusually clean and quite large enough for lumber for ordinary purposes of building, fencing &c.”

“ The next considerable body of woods is that lying above the south bank of the Assineboine. At about twenty miles from its confluence with the Red River, the usual narrow fringe of small woods widens out in going westward till it embraces several miles of depth back; of wooded country of which that next the river gives timber of comparatively larger growth, excellent oak and poplar for building of larger dimensions than that described in the previous section.”

“ Mixed wood and prairie extends over the greater part of the so called Pembina Mountain, in the west part of the Province also in the country north of the Assineboine, Shoal Lake and Lake Manitoba.”

“ Fringes of wood are generally to be found along all water courses of any size and about the shores of Lakes.”