

"It is also desired that you ascertain the areas of land occupied by the several institutions you may visit, the character of the soil and equipments, with capital cost; together with the expense of maintenance.

"The Minister desires that you should prepare and submit, as early as practicable, a report on the whole subject, indicating what features of the work, if accomplished, would, in your opinion, be most particularly beneficial to the agricultural, horticultural, and, incidentally, to the forest interests of the Dominion of Canada.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

JOHN LOWE,

"Secretary, Department of Agriculture.

"WM. SAUNDERS, Esq.,

"London, Ont."

In compliance with the request contained in this letter, I have recently visited many of the agricultural colleges and agricultural experimental stations in the United States, for the purpose of enquiring into the methods by which they are conducted, with the view of ascertaining, as far as possible, what benefits, either direct or indirect, they are conferring on practical agriculture, including stock-raising, dairying, &c. I have also endeavoured to ascertain what is being done in horticulture, especially in regard to the production of fruit, and in forestry, with special reference to the extent and character of tree-planting in the Western States also to gain information as to the area of land occupied by each institution, the character of the soil, buildings and equipments, the expenditure on capital account and cost of maintenance together with such other particulars as were believed to be of sufficient importance to occupy your attention.

In addition to what has been accumulated as the result of direct personal enquiry, I have endeavoured to present a brief summary of some of the more important features of the work being done by similar institutions in those parts of the United States which the limited time at my disposal did not permit me to visit. Most of these particulars have been obtained by correspondence. Reference also is made to what is being accomplished in European and other countries in the same direction, so as to present, as far as practicable, the whole subject of agricultural progress in a concise form. This is accompanied by an outline of a proposed system embracing such features of the work as would, in my opinion, be most particularly beneficial to the great agricultural interests of the Dominion of Canada.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

WM. SAUNDERS.

The Honourable

The Minister of Agriculture,

Ottawa.

THE

In t
ance of c
departm
college o
large gr
State wa
which su
1860. 2
lands sh
tenance
sary lan
erection
or by th
located.

In
manent
appropri
with a
ground
total of
ment o

T
The q
\$65,00
total v
from s

P
field o
cultiv
but v
scient

agric