DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS,

OTTAWA, 9th March, 1892.

To the Honourable

JOSEPH ALDRIC OUIMET,
            Minister of Public Works.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the annual report of the Department of Public Works, for the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1891,

The report contains references to the more important works performed under the direction and superintendence of the department, during the year.

In the numerous appendices annexed thereto, detailed accounts of the expenditure will be found, with reports by officers of the department, on the extent and nature of the services performed, in constructing, repairing and maintaining the public buildings, harbours, government telegraph lines, slides and booms, &c., throughout the Dominion.

The works under the control of the department are :—
        BUILDINGS (PUBLIC), their construction and maintenance.
        DREDGING AND DREDGE VESSELS.
        HARBOURS AND PIERS, their construction and maintenance.
        ROADS AND BRIDGES.
        SLIDES AND BOOMS, and the collection of revenue therefrom.
        TELEGRAPHS.
        WORKS ON NAVIGABLE RIVERS.

For convenience of reference, the following brief résumé of the work performed has been, as far as practicable, arranged alphabetically :—

ART GALLERY—NATIONAL.

"MORTGAGING THE FARM."—An oil painting by G. A. C. Reid, R.C.A., was this year handed over to the Government by the Royal Academy, and placed with the collection in the National Art Gallery.

The number of visitors who registered their names during each fiscal year since the gallery was inaugurated have been as follows :—

1882–83	8,261
1883–84	9,928
1884–85	11,893
1885–86	8,792
1886–87	11,943
1887–88	16,593
1888–89	14,241
1889–90	18,048
1890–91	21,289

The curator's report is added hereunto, in Appendix No. 12, page 189.