
 LIBRARY—SALES AND DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICATIONS.

The librarian, Dr. Thorburn, reports that during the year, from the 2nd of January to the 31st of December, there have been distributed 8,593 publications of the Geological Survey Department, comprising annual reports, parts of these, special reports and maps. Of these, 5,918 were distributed in Canada; the remainder, 2,675, were sent to foreign countries as exchanges to scientific and literary institutions, and to a number of individuals engaged in scientific pursuits. In most cases, the institutions and individuals receiving the survey publications reciprocate by supplying the library with copies of their publications, or otherwise rendering important assistance in the work of the survey.

It may be stated that the general list of exchanges now amounts to 782, and, besides these, there are upwards of 1,000 others receiving reports on palæontology, mineral statistics and botany. Due care has to be exercised in the distribution of the publications. Were all the applications granted, the supply, which is limited, would soon be exhausted. It is deemed advisable to retain a sufficient number in stock with which to supply future requirements. A large number of the earlier reports are already out of print, and can no longer be supplied.

The number of books, pamphlets and maps presented to the library last year was 2,307. Besides these, 146 books were purchased, and 38 periodicals, on geological, mineralogical and natural history subjects, were subscribed for.

The number of books bound in 1891 was 256.

The letters and acknowledgments sent to the library for publications distributed during the year were 1,952, and the number of letters sent out by the librarian was 1,053.

There are now about 9,000 volumes and 3,600 pamphlets in the library.

Attention is again called to the altogether insufficient space available for library purposes. The cases are all filled, and a large portion of the books are piled up round the library floor and in other parts of the building, and consequently, in many cases, it is difficult to find works which are required for consultation by members of the staff.

Sales of survey publications for the year ending 31st December, 1891, amounted to \$3,550.03.

VISITORS.

The number of visitors to the museum during the year was 20,363, being an increase of 2,063 over 1890, and of 10,814 since 1882, the first year of the opening of the museum in Ottawa.

STAFF, APPROPRIATION, EXPENDITURE AND CORRESPONDENCE.

The strength of the staff at present employed is 56, viz., professional, 37; ordinary, 19.

During the calendar year the following changes in the permanent staff have taken place:—

Mr. W. F. Ferrier,	appointed lithologist.
Mr. N. J. Giroux	do assistant geologist.
Mr. A. E. Barlow	do do
Mr. S. Barlow,	chief geographer, promoted to the rank of chief clerk.
Mr. H. P. Brumell,	promoted from the third to the second class.