

mette and myself all needed facilities. The details of the work done in the Departments will be found in the statement by Mr. Marmette, which forms part of this report.

During the time I was in Paris, I entered upon two special subjects for investigation—one an examination into the method adopted there of preparing catalogues, so as to be most readily available for reference; the other, the examination and selection of such works as related directly to the history of Canada. In the selection of historical works, I spared no pains, after a careful examination of several thousand titles and descriptions, to ascertain by a minute and careful scrutiny of the works selected for special examination, that they were complete editions, whether original or reprints, so that no imperfect copies might find their way to the shelves. Many of the works, it is almost unnecessary to say, required only careful collation, their value being well known, but others required a critical examination of their contents, so as to ascertain their value, or otherwise.

An opportunity presented itself, of which I took advantage, to make a collection of maps, illustrating the history of Nouvelle France and of British North America. A few are reprints, but nearly all are originals. In making the selection, I was guided by the desire to secure useful and not merely rare or curious maps, and I took the greatest care to satisfy myself as to the real date of the original issue, so that they might be arranged chronologically. Several, as may be inferred from this statement, are undated, but I think it will be found that the period of their publication, or in the case of reprints, their original publication, is almost positively fixed by direct or collateral evidence. The maps and a suitable collection of charts, I have had bound, in such a manner as to make them easy of access and at the same time to preserve them from injury.

In maps at pages 32, 35 and 37, of volume F, the boundaries of the Hudson's Bay Company's territories are laid down, professedly according to the Treaty of Utrecht. In 32, the line stated to be "the southern boundary of the Hudson's Bay, settled by Commissaries after the Peace of Utrecht," is coincident with 49° north latitude, leaving a portion of the Lake of the Woods to the south of the line which, running due east, takes in Lake and Fort Abitibi. The other maps (35, 37) represent the bounds by an irregular line to the north of 49° , presumedly following the supposed height of land, leaving Lake of the Woods altogether to the south, in a territory between what is represented on the map as the northern boundaries of New England and the southern boundaries of the Hudson's Bay Territories, the one extending to 48° and the other to about 49° . Map 35, professes to give the boundaries of all the grants in America; No. 37 gives only the New England and the Hudson's Bay limits. What authority the compilers of these maps had for fixing the limits, it is not easy to ascertain. Any special investigation into the question of boundaries was beyond the scope of my instructions, although the subject came incidentally under my notice.