

published. It is desirable that complete fyles of all bills introduced in the Dominion and Provincial Legislatures should be obtained for preservation. Those which have become Acts are embodied in the statutes, but many of the abortive bills show the drift of public opinion and the modifications made in their provisions before they become law, or the nature of their provisions, should they be finally rejected. An instance is given by Hallam in his Constitutional History of England, of the inconveniences experienced in the discussion of questions of a constitutional nature, arising from the want of these lapsed bills. In 1693 a bill to provide for the Independence of Parliament, by the exclusion of placeholders, was passed by the Commons but rejected in the Lords by a very small majority. The following Session it was passed by both Houses, but negatived by the King, William III. As no trace of the bill, as presented in the two successive years, can be found, it is impossible now to do more than conjecture its provisions, or the reasons that led to the respective actions of the three branches of the Legislature. In respect to Canada and the Provinces, it is possible that fyles of the Bills may have been kept by members of the various Legislatures, who might be induced to forward them for preservation in the Archives Office. Failing this, there seems to be no possibility of obtaining those for past years, but an endeavour will be made to secure them in future.

Among the works presented to the Archives during the year is a set of maps relating to the Maine boundary, given by Mr. F. H. Perley. They were collected by Mr. John Wilkinson, C.E., who was connected with the surveys and negotiations leading to the Ashburton Treaty. The maps have been bound and will be found useful for reference. Unfortunately, Mr. Wilkinson's notes and memoranda were burned in the fire which destroyed St. John, N.B., in 1877. Besides these, Mr. Perley has presented the Orderly Book of the 104th Regiment whilst stationed at St. John and Fredericton, from the 6th of June to the 2nd November, 1812. It was from Fredericton the 104th marched shortly after, on its winter trip to Quebec, the first company leaving on the 16th February, 1813, and a company each successive day till the 21st. They reached Quebec after twenty-four days travel; were inspected by Sir George Prevost on the 25th of March, immediately after which the Grenadier and Light companies started for Chambly, 200 miles distant, and thence to Kingston, 200 miles further, which latter place they entered on the 12th of April, fifty-six days after the first company left Fredericton. His Honour, Judge Pringle, of Cornwall, has made and forwarded an exact transcript of an Orderly book of the King's Royal Regiment of New York, whilst at Carleton Island, Fort Haldimand, *Shatogee* (Chateaugay) &c., in 1779 and 1780. It has been copied *verbatim et literatim* with all the interlineations, obliterations, and idle scribbling on its pages, adding to its value as an exact reproduction of an important paper. Besides other documents, Judge Pringle has forwarded, from Dr. Harrison, of Cornwall, two maps of Canada by Bellin, dated respectively 1745 and 1755.