

## PRISON AND ASYLUM LIBRARIES—Continued.

	Amount received.	Legislative Appo'ment.	Total.	Vols
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	
RECAPITULATION:				
For the year 1856 .....	173 79½	173 79½	347 59	781
For the year 1857 .....	126 13	126 13	252 26	562
For the year 1858 .....	100 00	100 00	200 00	251
For the year 1859 .....	131 75	131 75	263 50	562
For the year 1860 .....	127 82	127 82	255 64	453
For the year 1861 .....	10 00	10 00	20 00	47
For the year 1862 .....	55 00	55 00	110 00	167
For the year 1863 .....	65 00	65 00	130 00	243
Lunatic Asylums, as above, 1858.	111 93½	111 93½	223 87	386
" " " 1860	52 00	52 00	104 00	176
	\$953 43	\$953 43		
Grand total .....			\$1906 86	3628

The following Statistical Table has been compiled from the "Trade and Navigation Returns" for the years specified, shewing the gross value of books (not maps or school apparatus) imported into Canada. This table proves conclusively how incorrect is the statement that the operations of the Educational Depository interfere with the interests of the booksellers:\*

Year.	Value of books entered at Ports in Lower Canada.	Value of books entered at Ports in Upper Canada.	Total value of books imported into the Province.	Proportion imported for the Educational Department of Upper Canada.
1850.....	\$101880	\$141700	\$243580	\$ 84
1851.....	120700	171732	292432	3296
1852.....	141176	159268	300444	1288
1853.....	158700	254280	412980	22764
1854.....	171452	307808	479260	44060
1855.....	194356	338792	533148	25624
1856.....	208636	427992	636628	10208
1857.....	224400	309172	533572	16028
1858.....	171255	191942	363197	10692
1859.....	139057	184304	323361	5308
1860.....	155604	252504	408108	8846
1861.....	185612	344621	530233	7732
1862.....	183987	249234	433221	7800
1863.....	184652	276673	461325	†
1850—1863	\$2341467	\$3610022	\$5951489	\$176776

† This column for 1863 cannot be filled up, on account of the prolonged detention of the Depository invoices at the Audit Office.

N.B.—Up to 1854, the "Trade and Navigation Returns" give the value on books entered at every port in Canada separately; after that year, the Report gives the names of the principal ports only, and the rest as "Other Ports." In 1854, the proportion entered in Lower Canada was within a fraction of the third part of the whole, and, accordingly, in compiling this table for the years 1855–1863, the value entered in "Other Ports" is divided between Upper and Lower Canada, in the proportion of two-thirds to the former and one-third to the latter.

\* From the *Annual Review of the Trade of Toronto*, for 1860, we insert the following: "WHOLESALE STATIONERY AND BOOKS.—This branch of Trade, the existence of which in its present distinct character only dates back a few years, has been prosperous during the past season, and is rapidly becoming an important item in the commerce of the city. . . . The supplying of all the children in the country, at school, is an extensive trade in itself, not only with stationery but with school books, ranging from the primer to the classics. It will thus be seen that this is no unimportant trade; and Toronto is fortunate in possessing a number of establishments exclusively devoted to the business, which in point of energy and ability, are not surpassed by any other branch. The importation of books and stationery into Toronto, for three years past, are as follows:

"Devotional books .....	\$.....	\$28,773	\$100,350
"Books, periodicals, and pamphlets.....	99,575	53,384	19,169
"Stationery .....	33,097	33,423	27,519."

We also insert the following from the *Annual Review of Trade in Toronto*, for 1861: "WHOLESALE STATIONERY AND BOOKS.—No change of material importance has taken place in this trade during the year. Sales have not been so large as anticipated, yet they do not fall short of the preceding year. The depressed condition of the trade in the United States has caused a number of bankrupt stocks to be thrown into the market, at this and at other points, composed for the most part of a great deal of trash, leavened with a very little of really sound literature. American houses, hitherto reported as rich, have likewise held auctions, and sold at very low rates. Notwithstanding this, however, the regular legitimate trade has not languished, and on the whole has resulted satisfactorily. Of the standard works of English literature, there has been a fair amount imported; but the new publica-

† Dr. Russell, the late able correspondent of the *London Times*, in a letter dated Toronto, Feb. 1st, 1862, thus refers to this class of literature, which is silently circulated in numerous channels throughout Canada. He says (referring to Hamilton): "A pretty custom-house, in cut stone, from which floated the Union Jack—the first I have set eyes on for many a long month—flanks the entrance from the railway station to the long straggling town, which but for that token might be taken to be in the United States. Indeed, the influence of the Republic extends some way into the dominions of Her Majesty. The people in the carriages were reading the paltry pictorial papers which do so much to deprave the taste of the Americans,

TABLE shewing the value of articles sent out from the Educational Depository during the years 1851 to 1863 inclusive:

YEAR.	Articles on which the 100 per cent. has been apportioned from the Legislative Grant.		Articles sold at Catalogue prices, without any apportionment from the Legislative Grant.	Total value of Library, Prize and School Books, Maps, and Apparatus despatched.
	Public School Library Books.	Maps, Apparatus, and Prize Books.		
	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.	\$ cts.
1851.....	....	....	1,414 25	1,414 25
1852.....	....	....	2,981 13	2,981 13
1853.....	....	....	4,233 14	4,233 14
1854.....	51,376 23	....	5,514 18	56,890 41
1855.....	9,947 15	4,655 53	4,389 40	18,992 08
1856.....	7,205 62	9,320 87	5,726 76	22,253 25
1857.....	16,200 92	18,118 28	6,451 20	40,770 40
1858.....	3,982 99	11,810 28	6,972 05	22,765 32
1859.....	5,805 64	11,905 02	6,679 30	24,389 96
1860.....	5,289 56	16,832 17	5,416 64	27,538 37
1861.....	4,084 22	16,251 14	4,894 52	25,229 88
1862.....	3,272 88	16,193 78	4,844 17	24,310 83
1863.....	4,022 46	15,886 88	3,461 48	23,370 82
Total ..	\$111,187 67	\$120,973 95	62,978 22	\$295,139 84

tions, especially those from the American press, have been brought in very sparingly. The retail trade is in a generally healthy condition, and its character, especially in the country, is yearly improving. . . . Other indications of quite as favourable a character are noted, and the trade must prosper with the progress of the country. . . . The importations for the year of books are \$155,842, against \$119,419 last year; an increase of \$36,423. Of stationery, the imports amount to \$23,765, against \$27,519 last year; a difference only of \$1,146 in favour of 1861."

We extract the following from the *Annual Report of the Board of Trade of Toronto, Canada West, for 1862*, compiled by Mr. E. Wyman: "The year's business in this branch of trade has been quite satisfactory. Though perhaps less in extent, in common with other departments, it has been quite as profitable if not more so than in former years, while not a few features have developed themselves which are not only advantageous to the legitimate trade, but are gratifying to every well wisher of sound literature in the province. The improvement in the circumstances, capacity, and general business ability of those in the trade, which we have noted from year to year, has continued to manifest itself, and we see now, in almost every town, a bookseller or two conducting business on a sound basis, with more capital than ever before, and a better knowledge of the trade, and of business principles generally. This is evinced most in the improved credit in which the retail trade stands, in the promptitude with which engagements are met, and in the judicious care with which stocks are selected and carried. As a distinct branch, the trade is but young. The progress made in the last three years, however, shows that it is not only well established, but that it is rapidly assuming a healthy and prosperous condition. An equally gratifying fact is found in the improved character of the works introduced into general circulation. For years the country has been flooded with the lowest and most trashy class of literature from the American press. Books whose only merit was their bulk and binding, have been hawked into every nook of the province by a migratory tribe of itinerant pedlars. Sometimes a stray work of utility has been found among the stock, but for the most part the special efforts of these book hawkers have been directed to the disposing of some very superficial and uninteresting volumes, which, if even read, would leave the reader a trifle less wise than when he commenced them. We are happy to say that this style of business is rapidly on the decline, and that works from the best publishing houses, and sold through the legitimate trade, are finding their way into many sections of the country, and meeting a largely increased sale. We are not by any means, however, depreciating the efforts of the book pedlars to enlighten the world; they are very useful people, and, if their efforts are only properly directed, they may do great good. They are improving in the books which they present to the public, and our dealers will lose nothing by encouraging them, so long as their wares are of a good class. In periodical literature, however, the greatest change is observable—not only in the largely increased demand, but in the improved character of the issues sold. We are happy to say that neither the *New York Ledger* nor the *Mercury* is increasing its circulation in Canada. Even *Harper's Magazine* is not gaining ground. On the other hand, there is a large and growing sale for such periodicals as *Good Words*, a London publication of the best class, the *Family Treasury*, the *Churchman's Magazine*, the *Cornhill*, *All the Year Round*, &c. &c., and we are glad to know that the reduction in the price of the *London Illustrated News* is likely to increase largely its circulation in Canada. These facts present some indications of a change for the better in the literary taste of Canada. This improvement is in no small degree attributable to the persistent and unwearied exertions of our wholesale importers, and the advantages which they enjoy in close connection with first class British publishing houses. We hope, and indeed are certain, that they will be well compensated for their efforts. In this connection we are glad to notice that we are likely to have established amongst us a branch of an extensive and highly respectable Scotch firm, for the purpose not only of re-issuing in much approved style our leading text and school books, but for the publication of other works of merit than that may offer. We have long needed an establishment of this character, and through its operations we may hope to see Canadian Literature take a higher place in the world of letters. With long experience, ample means and the best facilities are commanded by the house in question, and we are sure their advent here will be hailed with pleasure.

"The business in stationery has been fairly remunerative during the year. The advance in materials for paper, as well as a heavy war tax on the manufacture itself, has largely enhanced the value of all descriptions in the United States, independently of the apparent increase in price due to the depreciation of the currency. The consequence is that, as compared with former rates, American stationery is fully 30 per cent. dearer. We have imported much less than the usual amount, substituting English goods, which are of a much better class. It so happens that the prices of the latter are favouring the buyer, as the abolition of the duty on paper has at length begun to cheapen it. It is only recently that there has been any decline in the article, notwithstanding an universal expectation that when the tax was removed the price would fall. Speculation and a largely enhanced demand for cheap periodicals, only a few of which comparatively have lived beyond the year, kept the rates up to nearly the old level, until within the past three

and to unsettle their notions in perspective and in material forms, or were deep in the pirated editions of English works, which constitute the staple trade of the mass of 'enterprising publishers.' The New York papers were the only journals hawked about for sale in the train. The sides of the train were covered with New York and Boston advertisements. Not a smack of Canada, in book, or print, or journal, or trade, could be detected."