

## THE BIBLIOGRAPHY OF ONTARIO.

It is necessary to bear in mind that Dr. Kingsford, in writing archaeology and bibliography, was only clearing the ground and opening a passage to the field of his greater work, whence the "History of Canada" was to issue. Others, who come after, will find this labour already done for them. To the pioneer falls the heavy and thankless task; his successors, whether mere copyists or genuine historians, will be saved the preliminary labour, and can set about their real work from the start. If these two little preliminary books are in one sense fragmentary, the fact only proves the difficulty of the task. Incompleteness arose from a want of material, the impossibility of making bricks without straw, and not from any want of diligent research within a given range.

Dr. Kingsford is making an heroic effort to complete his great work, the "History of Canada," and he is doing so under difficulties which may be described as immense. On the verge of seventy, if he has not passed the dial mark, the work he imposes to himself is to produce no less than three more volumes. Under the most favourable circumstances, this would be a herculean task, even if there were no extraordinary difficulties in the way; and when unusual obstacles have to be surmounted, they become almost unconquerable. If strength and life should suffice for the task, as we all hope, the completion of the work, at his age, will be a rare achievement. The author's great strength of constitution and untiring perseverance make me believe that the goal will be reached; but should the work be destined to become a fragment, it will remain for all time the monument of a noble effort. The difficulty of getting materials will increase, it is to be feared, as he gets farther on; and if he should outstrip the archivist in the race, the one collecting material and the other writing, the struggle will become hard indeed. The truth is, the historical materials of Upper Canada have been neglected, and much has, beyond doubt, perished. I know a case which occurred about two years ago, in this city, where valuable papers, specimens of which have been seen by me, were burned by a person hired for the purpose. I know that the same fate overtook the papers of a statesman who was in full activity forty or fifty years ago. I know of a third instance of a large mass of valuable papers, left by another statesman, the contents of six trunks, which, after being invaded by mice, were given to the flames. There is a good deal more of similar material in peril of destruction. Nothing is more common than for papers which have more or less historical value to get stowed away in garrets, there to remain till the death of the owner, when perhaps a removal takes place, and many of them find their way into the kitchen stove, not of malice prepense, but as good things for starting a fire.

If all the garrets in the country could be invaded by a zealous bibliographer, I should expect a considerable addition to the list of early books printed in Upper Canada. The discovery made to me to-day of a book printer at Ancaster, noticed further on, strengthens the belief I entertain that a good many may be found outside of Toronto. Kingston, Cobourg, Hollowell, (Picton,) Hamilton, Ancaster, St. Thomas, London, St. Catharines, may be looked upon as fields of some promise.

My reason for not being able to agree with Dr. Kingsford that there is little more to be discovered will be found in the list which I am enabled to add:—

[1807.] \* "The Christian religion, recommended in a Letter to his Pupils. By the Rev. John Strachan, A.M., Minister of Cornwall, Upper Canada. 'The good alone can happiness enjoy.' Montreal: Printed by Nahum Mower. 1807." pp. 32.

Dr. Kingsford can classify as he likes books which, like this, belong in authorship to Upper Canada, though printed elsewhere. I give them as I find them.

[1811.] \* "A Sermon on the Death of the Rev. John Stuart, D.D. Preached at Kingston, 25th August, 1811, by the Rev. John Strachan, D.D." Advertised in the York Gazette, November 20, 1811.

I think I know where there is a copy.

[1814.] \* "A Sermon, Preached at York, Upper Canada, on the third of June, being the day appointed for a general thanksgiving. By the Rev. John Strachan, D.D. Montreal: Printed by William Gray. 1814." pp. 38.

[1815.] \* "The letters of Veritas, republished from the Montreal Herald, containing a succinct narrative of the Military Administration of Sir George Prevost, during his command in the Canadas, whereby it will appear manifest that the merit of preserving them from contest belongs not to him. Montreal: Printed by W. Gray, July, 1815." pp. 157.

"[1816.] \* The first report of the Bible Society of Upper Canada, with a list of subscribers and benefactors. York: Printed for the society, 1818." pp. 44.

If this Report was published yearly, there would be no less than 23 numbers to be counted before 1840. There were several other reports, making a large aggregate before that date; over one hundred would probably fall short of the total.

[1823.] I find a review of a sermon preached by Dr. Strachan, on the death of the late Bishop of Quebec, in a Toronto paper, July 8.

[1824.] "Cases argued and determined in the Court of King's Bench, at York, Upper Canada, in Easter term, in the fifth year of Geo. IV. No. IV. Judges. The Hon. W. D. Powell, Chief Justice, the Hon. Wm. Campbell, the Hon. D'Arcy Boulton, John B. Robinson, Esq., Attorney General, Henry J. Boulton, Esq., Solicitor General. By Thomas Taylor, Esq. Printed by John Carey, York." From pages 154 to 175.

[1825.] "The Alien Question. By Paget. W. L. Mackenzie, printer. York, U.C." Folio, double column, each column paged. A fragment. I have all included between pages 34 and 64, the end, where "Paget" signs, dating from "Good—d, May, 1825."

[1826.] "The Naturalization Bill, with Observations." pp. 28. This pamphlet, I should think, ought to be affiliated to Chief Justice Robinson, who had charge of the Bill in the House of Assembly. My copy contains neither printer's name nor date, the cover, if there ever was one, which I doubt, being wanting, but the date must be the same as that of the Bill, 1826. pp. 28.

This pamphlet, following that of Collins on the same subject, in one of my bound volumes of pamphlets, I overlooked before.

[1826.] It was a pamphlet written by the Hon J. B. Macaulay, that caused Mackenzie

to retort upon the Family Compact in a wa which led to reprisal in the wrecking of his printing office. I have never seen it, and do not even know the title, but I would not even yet despair of finding a copy.

[1827.] "Illustrations of Masonry, by the late William Morgan. Republished, at the Colonial Advocate office, with introductory remarks. April, 1827."

[1827.] "Stewart's Essays. Printed at the Colonial Advocate office." Neither in connection with extracts from the work, nor in the advertisement of it, is the exact title stated, and the given name of the author is omitted. Stewart was a Baptist minister. Was it Alexander Stewart, Secretary of the Bible Society, York?

[1827.] The Western Almanac was published somewhere.

[1827.] I find extracts from a treatise on tobacco by Charles Melvin, who dates "Sandwich, December 12, 1827." Mr. Melvin came from Maryland to Canada.

[1828.] "To the public." This is a pamphlet by Mr. Henry Sherwood, detailing a quarrel between himself and Judge Willis. The judge wrote to Mayor Hillier complaining that Mr. Sherwood was alleged to have spoken of him as "a ruffian, blackguard and damned rascal;" and he added, "I do not think, in such a state of things, my life is free from danger." But the persons before whom this language was alleged to have been used did not bear out the allegation; on the contrary, three of them out of four made affidavit that no such thing was said in their presence. This pamphlet is without date, but there is internal evidence that it was written before the end of July, 1828. It throws a strong light upon the intensity of the bitterness that existed between Judge Willis and this sprig of the Family Compact. A "statement of facts, relating to the trespass on the printing press, in the possession of William Lyon Mackenzie, in June, 1826, addressed to the public generally, and particularly to the subscribers of the Colonial Advocate, Ancaster: Printed by George Gurnett. 1828."

Dr. Kingsford has mentioned an edition of this pamphlet: Printed by R. Stanton, 1828. A copy of the edition printed by Mr. Gurnett was brought to me while I was transcribing this list. Each edition contains 32 pages. At page 17 of Mr. Gurnett's edition, the author speaks of his "first notice of Mr. Mackenzie's press," "as well as this, the last, I trust." It is uncertain whether the words "first notice" refer to a previous writing or to the part the author took in the destruction of Mackenzie's press. If they be found in that of Mr. Stanton also, the two editions probably do not differ from one another. But where there are two editions in one year, we might expect more surviving copies than there would have been if there had been only one.

[1829.] "Pastoral address to members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada: to which is added the Report of the Committee appointed to examine into the allegations against the Conference, Economy and Government of the said Church." I find this in the form of "copious extracts from a pamphlet just published (October 8, 1829) under authority of Conference, extending to over a page of a newspaper. It is signed "Thomas Whitehead, Chairman."

[1829.] \* "The Order of Confirmation, with forms of self-examination and devotion, and