

The Board have made an arrangement with the German Society of Montreal, for taking over a large collection of German books, which the Society have purchased for the use of their members. This collection, consisting of about one thousand volumes, is now commodiously placed in the Library, and the conditions made with the Society enable their books to be used by visitors to the Library, though not to be circulated as part of a lending library, except among the members of the Society itself.

The Board are extremely desirous of forming a complete collection of books having reference to Canada; and have made material progress in that direction. A large number of publications most interesting to students of Canadian History are out of print, and are largely held by individuals. And the Board would gratefully receive any of such publications that can be spared, with the view of accumulating a Library of universal reference on Canadian subjects.

The Institute has not yet been able to dispose of any part of its property, and consequently is obliged to conduct its affairs with the most rigid economy, and with a staff, which the Board fear will scarcely be sufficient, if the public makes any great use of the lending library. There is still a small balance on hand of the fund which generous friends of the Institution subscribed for the purchase of books, but a considerable portion of this will be absorbed by the purchases of English and French books, which is intended to be made in the autumn and winter. A large number of the books and periodicals in the Library, require binding or rebinding, which the Board cannot venture to do with its present income. Any assistance towards the continuance of the purchase of suitable books, and towards the binding and rebinding of those now in the Library requiring it, would be of much advantage to the Institute and to the public.

J. J. C. ABBOTT,

*President.*

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