

The following Petition was brought up, and laid on the Table :—

By the Honorable Mr. *Campbell*,—Of the *Quebec* Fire Assurance Company.

The Honorable the Speaker presented to the House a List of the Shareholders of the *Montreal* City and District Savings Bank, dated 31st December, 1878.

And also a Return of the Baptisms, Marriages and Burials in the District of *Rimouski* for the year 1877.

*Ordered*, That the same do lie on the Table, and they are as follows :—

(*Vide Sessional Papers No.*)

The Honorable the Speaker presented to the House the Report of the Librarian on the state of the Library.

The same was then read by the Clerk, as follows :—

TO THE HONORABLE THE SENATE OF CANADA, IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The Report of the Librarian of Parliament respectfully sheweth :—

That during the past year strenuous efforts have been made to prepare and print a complete Catalogue of the Books in the Library, to date, in readiness for the opening of the present Session.

An Index to the contents of “the General Library,” which includes the titles of every work upon our shelves,—exclusive of the several divisions of Law and Politics—has been printed, and will shortly be distributed to both Houses.

Last Session, a classified Law Catalogue was placed in the hands of Members specially interested in legislation; and copies of the same will be furnished to any new Members who may make application for them. A similar volume, embracing the sections of Politics, Political Economy and Commerce, is now passing through the press, and will be distributed as soon as possible. It is proposed to append to this volume, an alphabetical Index, which shall also include a reference to the Books in the classified Law Catalogue, with all additions to this section, up to the present time.

These two Catalogues of Law and Politics, and Miscellaneous Literature, will comprise the entire contents of the Library.

Special attention has been bestowed upon the convenient arrangement and classification of the Books in every section of the Library, so as to facilitate reference by those who have direct access to the shelves; and to enable the Library staff to procure, with the least possible delay, any Books that may be asked for.

The Librarian would avail himself of this opportunity to invite the attention of Government and of both Houses of Parliament to the necessity, which will speedily arise, of providing for the growing wants of the valuable Library under his charge.

In his report at the opening of the Session of 1877, he submitted to the consideration of Parliament a plan which, in his opinion, would secure adequate accommodation for our large and increasing Collection of Books for many years to come, and which, at the same time, would afford peculiar and most desirable facilities to the Members of the Legislature in the use of the Library.

He proposed that the Supreme Court should be removed from its present temporary quarters, into a building set exclusively apart for its occupation, and that the rooms now devoted to the use of that tribunal should be restored to the Library. In this event he suggested that the entire classes of works appertaining to Law and Legislation should be transferred to these apartments, which should be reserved for the exclusive use of Members during Session.