

Howe, an examination of the ancient records and documents illustrative of the history and progress of society in Nova Scotia, was ordered to be made. In 1864, upwards of 200 volumes of manuscripts had been selected, arranged, catalogued and bound, and in 1865, the legislative assembly referred the matter to a committee."

It would take me far beyond the bounds to which space limits me, were I to attempt a full history of the Dominion archives since their origin. Those curious of entering deeper into the subject have ample verge and material to consult in the fifteen reports submitted on this matter to the legislature since 1872 by Mr. Brymner, by the learned Abbé Verreau in 1874, and by Mr. Joseph Marmette (Alas, no more!)

1873.—The report for this year includes an account of the Dominion archivist's visit to London, and of the records and despatches stored in the British Museum, the British public record, the Tower of London, the war office, the office of the secretary of state, on war, fisheries, commerce, emigration, etc.

With respect to the documents stored at Montreal, he adds: "There is a collection of statutes, in French and in English, which I would respectfully recommend should be distributed to public libraries, and literary institutions. They are chiefly the old 'Acts and Ordinances' and 'Edits et Ordonnances,' reference to which is frequently desired."