51 Victoria.

Through the courtesy of the Abbé A. Rhéaume, of the Seminary of Quebec, valuable additions have been made to the documents relating to the early ecclesiastical history of Quebec. Among these are the unpublished annals of the Seminary, prepared by the Abbé (now Cardinal Archbishop) Taschereau; and many important letters and reports from the agents in France of the Seminary here. One of these—a letter or report from Father Tremblay to the directors of the Seminary in 1695—is published, in full, in one of the notes to this report. In the introductory remarks to this letter, much assistance has been derived from the Annals in respect to details not noticed in works already published or which were doubtful, owing to the differing statements of writers on the history of the Seminary.

Mr. R. W. Heneker, Commissioner of the British American Land Co., succeeded, with considerable difficulty, in obtaining the most important papers relating to the establishment of the company and the early settlement of the Eastern Townships. These have been sent by Mr. Heneker and are now on the shelves. Papers respecting early settlements of the country are being gradually acquired. It is very desirable that those in possession of correspondence or other papers likely to throw light on the opening up and settlement of the different districts in the various Provinces of the Dominion should transmit them to this office for preservation and reference. No time is lost, after receipt of all papers, in having them properly and systematically arranged with those of a similar kind and so bound as to be of the greatest possible assistance in searches.

The reports of the Deputy Keeper of Records of England and of the Historical Manuscripts Commission, as well as the recent publications of the Public Record Office, have been received during the year, having been transmitted by the authority of the Master of the Rolls.

Acknowledgments are due to the Governments of Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba, and to the North-West Council for the regular transmission of all published official documents. All the Parliamentary papers of the Dominion are also regularly received. In addition, by instruction of the Hon. Oliver Mowat, a set of the unpublished journals of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada has been transmitted to the Archives, a few copies having been made for deposit in places of special security, in which they may be of service. The Hon. C. A. E. Gagnon, Provincial Secretary of Quebec, has forwarded the third volume of the Jugements et Deliberations du Conseil Souverain, the other two having been previously received. The work is one of great value, and with the Mandements of the Bishops of Quebec, now in course of publication under the direction of Mgr. H. Têtu and Abbé Gagnon, Librarian of the Archiepiscopal Library, will afford a very complete view of the civil and ecclesiastical history of Canada under French rule, in two important aspects.