

special purposes, and, in the case of most of them, if copies were taken, the work of collecting the Archives would be as far as ever from being carried on systematically; there would be introduced an element of confusion into future investigations, and the expense would, to a large extent, be thrown away. What was said last year on this subject, I take the liberty of repeating:—

“The papers relating to the Colonies are not the only sources from which to draw in the Public Record Office. There are many in the Domestic series, amongst the Treasury documents and in those relating to Foreign Affairs. These would all require to be examined carefully; the search necessarily would occupy a considerable time and most conscientious labour, which, it is almost unnecessary to say, would be facilitated in every possible way by the officers of the State Departments and of the Record Office. Without a thorough report as to the documents, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to arrive at a proper determination on the subject.”

I would, therefore, suggest that a complete investigation be made in the Public Record Office and the State Departments, in London, to be accompanied or followed by a similar investigation in Paris, and that, concurrently with the searches, competent persons should be employed to make copies of such documents as it shall be deemed advisable to obtain for deposit amongst the Archives of Canada.

The whole respectfully submitted.

DOUGLAS BRYMNER,

Archivist.

OTTAWA, 30th December, 1882.

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