

"24 volumes include letters to and from the Governors and Lieutenant Governors of Nova Scotia, letters to and from the Board of Trade, Commission books, Minutes of Council, etc., and appear to be quite complete.

"The papers relating to the Island of Cape Breton number 26 volumes beginning in the year 1773 and extending to the year 1835. Cape Breton was annexed to Nova Scotia in the year 1820 against the wishes of most of the inhabitants and since then has lost its identity, and all the other papers relating to it are to be found among the Nova Scotia documents. There is a very interesting volume, number 26, of the Nova Scotia Archives, which contains a register of the marriages, births and deaths of Port Royal and vicinity from the year 1702 to 1728. This volume has already been copied for the Archives of Canada. Much of the interest connected with it is due to the fact that autograph signatures of all the leading men of Acadia during the last year of the French Government of Port Royal, Brouillan, Subercase, Bonaventure, Pontif, DesGoutins, Charles LaTour, St. Castine the younger, and many others are contained in it.

"The volumes which relate to the history of Nova Scotia from 1749 upwards number about 440 and are very complete. They comprise despatches from the Lords of Trade and Plantations to the Governors of Nova Scotia in the early days of the colonies and from the Governors to the Lords of Trade and to the Secretary of State, Minutes of Council, miscellaneous documents on special subjects, public accounts, census returns and many other matters. About one hundred of these volumes were in the vaults of the Provincial Secretary when I went to Halifax, where, from want of sufficient room to examine them, they were not available, but at my request the Deputy Provincial Secretary, Mr. Mathers, had them removed to the shelves where the Archives are deposited, so that all the volumes relating to the history of Nova Scotia are now together, with the exception of the original Minutes of Council. Copies of the latter down to the year 1810 are among the other Archives.

"After examining the whole of the five hundred volumes of Archives in the Committee room of the Legislative Council, I turned my attention to the papers deposited in boxes in the attics of the Province building. These boxes are sixty-one in number and in their present condition are not readily accessible. They contain a great variety of documents, a list of which will be found in my final report. It is to be regretted that they are not more readily available, but with the present limited accommodation afforded by the Nova Scotia Province Building, there appears to be no remedy. Mr. Piers has succeeded in obtaining from the military authorities 270 volumes of letter books, and order books relating to the garrison in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Among these are 91 volumes of general orders issued at Halifax from 1783 to 1903; two volumes of general and garrison orders, 68 volumes of garrison orders issued between 1814 and 1903, 6 volumes of other orders, 16 volumes of general orders issued at Fredericton, and 6 volumes of district and garrison orders also issued at Fredericton, 2 volumes of memorandums, 18 volumes of general orders issued at Halifax, and District Orders at St. John; 4 volumes of garrison orders issued at St. John and 1 volume of army medical correspondence.

"A complete list of the contents of these 270 volumes will be found in my final report.

"These are but a portion of the military correspondence that was at one time in Nova Scotia. I understand that many of the other volumes are now in the department of Archives at Ottawa. There are also in care of the Nova Scotia Archivist, 332 Military Maps and plans connected with the fortifications and garrisons in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, some of them of ancient date. A list of these will be found in my report.

"Having disposed of this collection I turned my attention to the Crown Land Office where all the grants issued in Nova Scotia were registered up to the year 1854. Since then such grants have been recorded in the Office of the Registrar of Deeds of the County where the land granted is situated. These grant books are in perfect order and easily accessible and the Officer in charge of them, Mr. Austin, is always ready to show them to those who have reason to consult them. Among the other