

in Canada, is to be seen in the report for 1883. I spent some weeks in Paris, and was, I think, fortunate in securing a number of valuable historical works.

"Besides the documents specially mentioned, we have on the shelves the British State papers of the series bearing the title 'America and West Indies,' from 1755, the first year of the final struggle for supremacy on this continent between Britain and France. These papers include the operations in Nova Scotia, the siege and capture of Louisbourg, the campaigns in Canada till the conclusion of the war. It is very desirable to begin the copying of that portion of this series which relates to Nova Scotia, and the Maritime Provinces generally, but fortunately the intelligent and careful labour of Dr. T. B. Akins, the Archivist of Nova Scotia, renders delay less prejudicial than it would otherwise be. His work has been admirably done. The 'Colonial Series' of the State papers begins in 1760, continuing, so far as the old Province of Quebec is concerned, till 1791, when it is parted into two streams by the formation of the two Provinces of Lower and Upper Canada. When that point was reached, I had the staff of copyists divided, half taking Lower and half Upper Canada, so that the papers relating to each might be received concurrently. That work is carried on steadily, with a competent staff of copyists.

"We have, also, a variety of family papers of various periods; numerous documents relating to the refugee loyalists, inaccessible to Sabine and others who have hitherto written on that subject; copies of old parish registers from Acadia and the Lower St. Lawrence, from the Illinois, Detroit, &c., besides notarial registers, originals and copies from the latter named place. More of these registers would have been copied had means permitted. There are miscellaneous documents of general interest as well as those local to Canada; a very valuable collection of printed historical works and pamphlets old and new; county histories, manuscript and printed, and, as I have already said, original accounts of many of the early settlements; the valuable collections of the publications of the Public Record Office, London, numbering now upwards of 400 volumes, which I was fortunate enough to obtain as a gift from the British Government. The new volumes of these are sent as issued, besides the important and valuable reports of the Historical Manuscripts' Commission, which is bringing to light the treasures hitherto concealed in the muniment rooms of the old British families.

"My ambition aims at the establishment of a great storehouse of the history of the colonies and colonists in their political, ecclesiastical, industrial, domestic, in a word, in every aspect of their lives as communities. Included in this should be the history of the old French *régime* in Acadia, Canada, Louisiana and the westward; of all the British Colonies in America, from their beginning down at least to 1796, when the last of the frontier posts were transferred to the United States. The fortunes of all were so intertwined that it is impossible to separate the records of them without injury. It may be a dream, but it is a noble dream. It has often spurred me to renewed effort, when the daily drudgery—for it is drudgery—was telling on mind and body. It might be accomplished, and Ottawa might become on this continent the Mecca to which historical investigators would turn their eyes and direct their steps. But who is sufficient for the task?"

The following is an extract from a letter by Mr. Walter Shanly, M.P., enclosing a number of inscriptions from grave stones in the old English burying-ground, Montreal. The letter fully explains the reason for publishing these inscriptions.

"I send you a few jottings, taken many years ago in the old English Burying-ground here in Montreal, and which, seeing that the tombstones from which they were transcribed are no longer to be found, may have sufficient historic value to entitle them to preservation in the Archives. Some of the names recorded are of persons conspicuous in the "Haldimand Collection," and other official correspondence of the latter half of the last century. The burying-ground in question was on the corner of Dorchester and St. Urban streets. Some dozen years since the city government decreed its destruction, and it was converted into a park—so called. In