

# REPORT ON CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

DOUGLAS BRYMNER, ARCHIVIST.

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Honourable JOHN CARLING,  
Minister of Agriculture,  
&c., &c., &c.

SIR,—I have the honour to present the report on Archives for 1891.

As formerly reported, the work of making transcripts in the Public Record Office, London, continues and the same care is exercised as hitherto in securing the most absolute correctness. The State Papers for Lower Canada are now copied down to the year 1819, covering the death of the Duke of Richmond in August of that year and part of the administration of the Acting Governor Monk; for Upper Canada to the year 1825; the volume Q 359 contains the correspondence relating to the establishment of the Upper Canada Company, the succeeding volumes, which may be shortly expected, containing full details of the transactions between Government and the company. The correspondence in relation to Canada, for the series marked America and West Indies, begins in 1755 and ends in 1771, that marked Quebec, Canada from 1760 to 1791, with scattered papers down to 1800; for Lower Canada from 1791 to 1819, and for Upper Canada from 1791 to 1825, besides a series of volumes of military correspondence from 1756 to 1786, from the generals in command. A collection of the papers laid before the Imperial Parliament has also been made and nothing has been left undone to make these complete and immediately accessible, so far as the means placed at the disposal of the branch would permit. It may be repeated, that the most rigid economy has been observed in the expenditure of the amount granted by Parliament for the Archive Service.

Work has been begun in Paris on the documents selected by Mr. Marmette to be copied, and a first instalment has been received, which he is now engaged in indexing, so as to make them accessible. Similar precautions as in London are taken in Paris to ensure absolute correctness in the transcripts.

A list of the documents and books presented during the year will be found at the end of the report, an examination of which will show the general interest felt in the work.

Requests for information and personal investigations are steadily increasing and the importance of the work is now fully recognised and acknowledged. It has been the settled system of this branch to meet all requests for information as promptly as possible.

Two lists of names of officers and soldiers to whom Lord Dorchester desired to grant lands for their services at St. John's and at Bennington will be found interesting. It may be well to note that when Ticonderoga was surprised by Benedict Arnold and Ethan Allen there were, according to their own account, only about 40 men in the garrison, entirely unprepared, having received no news of the outbreak at Lexington, and therefore believing it unnecessary in a British possession to be on their guard against a hostile attack. Crown Point, with a garrison of 12 men, was taken, and St. John's had only 10 men and a sergeant. It is on these captures, with a large armed force, that Ethan Allen has received the title of the Hero of Ticonderoga and had a statue erected to his honour, although Benedict Arnold had at least an equal title to the command in these cases and it was to Seth Warner that Crown