

SESSIONAL PAPER No. 18

tional development of Canada during the period covered. In answering this question we may take up the sections in order.

The documents which fall within the first three classes leave very little room for choice, as they are limited in number and definite in character. The first section includes the Capitulations of Quebec and Montreal, and the two Treaties of Paris of 1763 and 1783. Section II includes the Proclamation of 1763, the Quebec Act and the Constitutional Act. Section III includes the Commissions and Instructions to Governors, etc. In order to economize space, since the Commissions cover, though only in a partial degree, much the same ground as the Instructions, samples only are given to indicate their nature. Special features, such as Dorchester's Commission in 1786 to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief in all the British North American Colonies, are fully indicated in the correspondence and notes. Where the Instructions to one Governor are continued for his successor with little or no alteration, they are not repeated in full, only the alterations or additions being given. However, where important changes in policy were being discussed or had taken place, as in 1768, 1775, and 1786, the Instructions are given in full, even though considerable sections of them remain unchanged, it being important at such periods to see the relation of the old to the new elements. This section includes also various additional or special Instructions which were issued to the Governors during their periods of Office.

Section IV covers the series of Provincial Ordinances from 1764 to 1789, establishing the Provincial Courts and prescribing, subject to the British Statutes and Instructions, the system of law and procedure to be observed therein.

In Section V there is more choice of materials, though there is little difficulty in determining which are the most essential documents, as that is largely indicated by the importance attached to them alike at the time and afterwards, as evidenced by the repeated references to them in the other documents and correspondence of the period. The only difficulty here has been in procuring authentic copies of all the documents of this description referred to. Though the great majority of these reports have been discovered among the State Papers, or in other authentic form, a few of them have not as yet been secured. The Reports of Carleton and Hey in 1769 have not yet been found, though the substance of the former is fairly well indicated in the criticism of it made by Mr. Maseres (see p. 258). This indicates that the Governor had simply recapitulated in the Report his views as frequently expressed to the Home Government in his correspondence with the Secretaries of State, Lords Shelburne and Hillsborough. It has also been impossible up to the present to trace among the State Papers the reports on the Government of Quebec made by Solicitor-General Wedderburn and Attorney-General Thurlow, in 1772 and 1773, though a supplement to the Solicitor-General's report containing its essential features has been found among the Dartmouth Papers. We have