

The Honourable the Speaker presented to the Senate,—A statement of the affairs of the British Canadian Loan and Investment Company, for the year ending 31st December, 1894.

Also,—A list of shareholders on 31st December, 1894.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table, and they are as follow :—

(*Vide Sessional Papers, No. 38.*)

The Honourable the Speaker presented to the Senate,—The Report of the Joint Librarians on the state of the Library of Parliament, for the year 1894.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE.

The Joint Librarians of Parliament have the honour to report as follows for the year 1894 :—

The Colonial Conference of July and the later conference with delegates from Newfoundland, prove in the most striking manner the value of the large collection of Imperial and Colonial official reports and publications which the Librarians make constant efforts to maintain and increase. The space occupied by such collections is necessarily large, and like all the space in the Library is rapidly drawing to an end.

The Library contains a collection of manuscripts of great historical value, such as the correspondence of the Government of Canada with the Home Government, during the French regime; the Chisholm papers, the voyage of Henry to the North, west, 1798-1814. It has been suggested on several occasions that these manuscripts should be made more available to those interested in the early history of the country. As far back as 1861, a petition bearing the signatures of several historians, &c., was presented to the Library Committee praying that these papers be printed for distribution.

The Librarians take the liberty to recommend the carrying out of that suggestion. One or two volumes might be printed every year at a small outlay—half for distribution to members of Parliament and educational institutions, and the balance to be sold at cost price. The whole collection would form about ten quarto volumes.

Additions of scarce and valuable works have been made during the past year to the *Canadiana* or section of old books on Canada, viz.: The Journals of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada for 1801 and 1802, which number among the earliest imprints of that province; also a very rare book entitled: "Histoire de la guerre contre les Anglais (1759-60)," by Poullin de Lumina.

The discussion of educational questions during the year will justify the effort made to provide information on the general question of education as well as on the special question before the public.

Among the additions to the Library during the year may be mentioned a set of the Irish National Manuscripts, volumes which exhibit facsimiles of some of the most remarkable manuscripts in the world.

Among the donations we have to acknowledge a set of invaluable papers of the Royal Engineers from 1880 to 1893 (36 vols.). These papers are specially useful as containing information of use in regard to colonial defence.

In view of the constant discussion of labour questions, a complete set of the reports of the Royal Commission on Labour has been added to our collection, apart from the ordinary set of Imperial blue books. These reports contain a vast amount of information on the conditions of labour in the United Kingdom and abroad.

The discussion and legislation in the United States on the Customs tariff of that country have induced the Librarians to provide full sets of the special Tariff Bulletins issued by the Treasury Department. These Bulletins are bound and indexed and contain statistical information of great value as well as a large body of opinions voluntarily communicated by experienced business men.