

The Honourable the Speaker presented to the Senate,—The Report of the Joint Librarians of Parliament, which is as follows :—

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE.

The Joint Librarians of Parliament have the honour to report as follows for the period which has elapsed since the close of the Session, in October last.

In their last report, the Librarians were able to state the acquisition, for the Library, of the *Journals* of the *Legislative Assembly* of Nova Scotia, from 1802 to 1840.

Since last Session they have procured the *Journals* of the *Legislative Council* of *New Brunswick*, from 1786 to 1836, and of the *Legislative Assembly*, from 1810 to 1816.

The *Journals* of the Legislature of British Columbia, not obtainable in print, are in process of being copied for the Library, and we have received type-written copies for the year 1856 to 1860. The series will be continued (and duly indexed) till it is completed to the point at which the admission of British Columbia to the federation of the Dominion of Canada took place.

Now that the Library Committee has finally decided, by its adoption of the Librarians' report of last year, that the estimates voted for the Library shall not be taxed for the purchase of "Exchanges," the Librarians hope to be able, from time to time, to supply or to complete collections, such as those just mentioned, hitherto wanting or imperfect.

The attention of the new members of the two Houses is directed to the following rules which have been passed, after due discussion, by the Committee and approved of by Parliament during the last few years :

1st. That bound volumes of newspapers shall not be removed from the Library room, except when in demand, during a sitting of either House, for the purpose of debate ; and that the volumes, when so sent into the Chambers, shall be returned at the close of the sitting.

2nd. That the following books, viz. :—1. The Debates of the Imperial Parliament. 2. The Law Reports. 3. The Law Reviews. 4. The Debates of the Dominion and of the Colonies. 5. The Parliamentary Papers of Great Britain. 6. The Statutes of Canada and the Provinces. 7. Works on Parliamentary Government and Practice. 8. Statistical Compilations. 9. The Congressional papers of the United States ; and similar works, which are constantly in use among members, should not be permitted to be taken from the Library, except for use in debate, and during a sitting of either House ; and that the Librarians be instructed to procure the return of such books at the conclusion of the sitting of the House.

The strict observance of these rules will result in an increase of general convenience. The Committee of 1893, which passed the rules above quoted, added the following counsel :—"Your Committee, however, consider it desirable that the attention of members should be called to these rules, and that they should exercise their privileges with due regard to the interests of the Library and with reasonable consideration for the convenience of fellow members in respect to the number of books taken out at any one time and the period for which they are retained."

The addition to the Library during recess have had, as usual, some relation to the public questions of the day. Thus, works and pamphlets which relate to Tariff questions, the Temperance question, trade questions, &c., will be found in their places.

The necessity of having, in many cases, a number of copies of many works in sudden and general demand, makes inevitable inroads on space, which is almost exhausted, and on the grant of money, which it may be noted, has remained stationary during many years, though the increase of periodical publications, learned society transactions, statistical compilations, new editions and books of reference, not to speak of literary production in general, has gone on with an embarrassing rapidity.

Several important works have been added to the Canadian section since last session. Among them the *Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, &c., translated into Mohawk language by Captain Joseph Brant, London, 1787.* This rare book, printed in English and Mohawk