

REPORT ON CANADIAN ARCHIVES

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The Honourable

SYDNEY A. FISHER,

Minister of Agriculture,

&c., &c., &c.

SIR,—I have the honour to present the report on Archives for 1901.

Since the last report was published there have been received from London 64 volumes of copies of State papers, namely: Upper Canada, 1840, 1841, 10 volumes; Lower Canada, 1840, 3 volumes; Nova Scotia, correspondence 3 volumes, Dispatches to Governors, 1768 to 1834, 13 volumes; Minutes of Executive Council, 1753 to 1785, 13 volumes; Journals of Legislative Council, 1758 to 1764, 4 volumes; New Brunswick, 1784 to 1796, 7 volumes; Hudson's Bay papers, 1673 to 1759, 3 volumes; Dartmouth papers, 1759 to 1784, 2 volumes; Admiralty papers, 1812 to 1815, 6 volumes. From Paris there have been received 24 volumes, namely: Ile Royale, 1740 to 1762, 18 volumes; Missions, 1760 to 1768, 2 volumes; Ile St. Jean, 1717 to 1758, 2 volumes; Prise de Louisbourg, 1758, 2 volumes. These have all been shelf-marked and placed on the shelves, making an addition to the previous collection of 88 volumes of State papers.

The work is conducted with the greatest care, so as to have exact transcripts of the documents that no errors may occur in the copies. Instructions have been given that whenever an apparent error is found in the original it shall be indicated by a slight pencil mark so as to save correspondence. The utmost regard is paid to economy in conducting the work of the branch, so far as that does not affect its efficiency.

Owing to my long continued and severe illnesses I have been unable to prepare the usual summary of the volumes reported on, or to select the documents to be printed in full in the report. The work was, however, carried on under my direction by Mr. Alexander Duff and Miss M. Casey, assistants, so that during my illnesses it has not been neglected. The calendars contained in the present report relate, to some extent, to a very critical period in the history of Canada and give a summary of the events leading up to the rebellion as well as to the rebellion itself. In addition to the documents in the State papers, the volumes relating to the same subject in the C series may be consulted with advantage. Sir Francis Bond Head, Lieut.-Governor at the time published a narrative of the transactions of the period in various forms, but the one that is most accessible is in a volume issued by John Murray, London, in 1839. This gives Sir Francis Head's side of the story. There are also documents relating to the