

section from the Laurentian Axis to the Rocky Mountains;" and by the writer, on the "Quebec Group."

Twenty-one named collections of minerals and rocks have been made, labelled catalogued, and distributed to educational institutions. These comprised in all 2,283 specimens. About 100 boxes of specimens have been opened, sorted, and classified the useless specimens being rejected and the remainder, not wanted for the Museum, repacked in such a manner as to be easily available for reference or exchange or for making up collections for presentation. This work was performed by Mr. C. W. Willimott, assisted by Mr. Brumell. In August and September, Mr. Willimott visited and examined several mining districts for the purpose of procuring specimens wanted for the Museum collection, and also material for collections for distribution to educational institutions. At the same time statistics of all the mines visited were obtained, the details of which will be given in the annual report now in course of publication.

LIBRARY.

During the year ending 31st December last, 3,268 copies of the Survey publications have been distributed, a larger number than during any previous year. Of these 2,372 were distributed in Canada, 1,902 being in the English language and 470 in French. The remainder (869) were sent to scientific and literary societies in America, Europe, India, Japan, and Australia. In return for these, 435 publications, including books, transactions, memoirs, periodicals, pamphlets, and maps have been received. Many of these publications and a large number of other valuable books in the library are still unbound, and consequently it is only with difficulty, and at the risk of injury, that they are available for reference by the public or by members of the staff.

Since the 20th May last, the Government contractor has only accomplished the binding of 138 volumes, at which rate of progress it will require four years to finish binding the books now in the library.

Thirty-three scientific magazines and periodicals have been subscribed for, a list of which is given in the Annual Report.

Eighty volumes have been added to the library by purchase.

There are now in the library about 4,500 volumes. The catalogue is being proceeded with, and will, it is hoped, be ready for printing some time during the ensuing year.

VISITORS.

9,549 names have been entered in the register of visitors to the Museum during the year, the largest number in any previous twelve months of its existence having been 1,652. This large increase of visitors must be regarded as exceedingly satisfactory for the first year of the establishment of the Museum at the Capital; and I venture to express the hope that the future liberality of Parliament will enable the popularity and usefulness of the institution for practical, scientific, and educational purposes to be yet very largely increased.

STAFF, APPROPRIATION, AND EXPENDITURE.

The strength of the staff at present employed is thirty-eight of all classes, viz: professional, twenty-six; ordinary, twelve.

The appropriation for the current fiscal year ending 30th June next, was \$60,000, against which the whole expenditure for the Geological and Natural History Survey, and for the maintenance of the Museum, is charged, including the salaries and wages of all employés, which this year will amount to about \$33,000.00.

The following changes have occurred during the year:—Dr. Thorburn was appointed Librarian on the 12th of April, 1882. Mr. A. Webster resigned on the 1st of October, after six months leave; and Mr. Wallace Broad was promoted to the vacancy. Messrs. Low and McMillan were appointed Assistant Field Geologists from