

is at once called to the fact and the order is cancelled, unless special reason is shown for its execution.

In sending out an unpurchased copy to any person or institution, not an established depository, there is always, at the same time, sent a printed slip announcing to the recipient: "This publication is sent you at the request of.....Senator, or.....Representative, for so and so. Please acknowledge receipt." A receipt is printed on the margin of this slip with perforation between. In that way the courtesy of the Senator or Representative or official is made known, and the sending of duplicates or triplicates to the same person (without express orders after the fact is known) is prevented; and this tends to the reduction of the free distribution with the increased chance of purchase by those really needing the publications called for.

These are all objects to be aimed at under our new system of distribution of public documents.

Of course the ordinary distribution to Congress of Congressional documents hardly came within the scope of my work; but in the course of my inquiries I was informed that, although a certain number of printed bills and resolutions and documents were assigned to each member, they were not sent to him till called for,—the "Calendar" (like our Orders of the Day) showing when bills, resolutions, &c., were in print, and, as in England, a printed list, showing from week to week what departmental or other reports or public documents were on hand and could be obtained is issued. The desks and post office boxes of members are not crowded with printed documents which members do not care for, and therefore send off to others who care less, perhaps, in order to get them out of the way, thus adding to the supply of waste paper in many constituents' houses, and nothing more.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B. CHAMBERLIN,

Queen's Printer and Controller of Stationery.

The Honourable

J. A. CHAPLEAU,

Secretary of State.

ADDENDUM.

Extracts from Mr. Ames' report upon his work—Congress of 1886—1887:—

" UNBOUND DOCUMENTS.

" A large and needless waste in the matter of public documents is occasioned by the enormous issue of unbound copies which takes place under present regulations.

" It is undoubtedly true that many documents must be delivered in unbound form for the immediate use of Congress in current legislation, but in the aggregate, these form only a small portion of those thus issued, chiefly reports of committees and certain of the current Executive and Miscellaneous Documents. But that 800 or 900 copies each of the quarto volumes of the Tenth Census, or Records of the Rebellion, of the Official Register of the United States, of the annual reports of the Bureau of Ethnology, of the Geological Survey, and of other costly scientific publications of the Government, and of such annual reports of Executive Departments as form each a separate and entire volume, should be issued in unbound form for such disposition as usually befalls these documents seems wholly unnecessary.

" Reform in this matter will consist either in largely reducing the number issued unbound, carefully discriminating between those that are and those that are not required for immediate use in legislation, or in binding all documents which constitute each by itself an independent volume before they are sent from the printing