

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 1895.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE.

The Joint Librarians of Parliament have the honour to report as follows for the year 1895 :—

The recess has been largely devoted to changes and improvements in the catalogue of the Library, the law catalogue being in process of re-copying and the card catalogue being put into type-writing.

The United States Government having after much delay published the proceedings in the Behring Sea case, complete sets of the American volumes have been provided for the Library, in addition to those printed by Great Britain.

Attention is being given to the collection of the reports of all Royal Commissions issued in Great Britain for the investigation of important public questions. The Library already contains many of these reports, on Trade, Criminal Law, the West Indies, the Public Service, Labour, and other subjects.

The Royal Commission on Agriculture in England having almost completed its labours, a full set of the volumes as far as published has been provided in advance of the general set of Imperial Commons Papers.

The Royal Commission on Secondary Education having published its report in full, a separate set has been provided in like manner.

The reports of the various Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce in England for the past year have been collected, and will be found upon the shelves.

The date of the meeting of Parliament renders it impracticable to provide the bound sets of periodicals for the use of Members at as early a period as is desirable ; but arrangements have been made to procure as speedily as possible the newspapers and periodicals most likely to be required for the purposes of Parliament.

The instructions of the committee with regard to the distribution of certain exchanges were duly carried out during the recess, and the replies of the recipients have been duly received and filed in the Library.

The latest additions to the literature of Political Economy, Statistics and Trade will be found on the shelves, as usual ; but the annual statistical compilations for 1895 will not be available at this early date of the new year.

Among the most valuable of the donations of the year may be mentioned the Report of the Constitutional Convention of New York in seven volumes, received from the library of the State.

At this last session of the present Parliament the Librarians desire to acknowledge the courtesy and consideration they have received from the Speakers of the Senate and House of Commons, in carrying out the rules and customs of the Library.

The list of donations and copyrights will be found appended as usual.

The catalogue of accessions during the year is ready for distribution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. D. DECELLES, G.L.

MARTIN J. GRIFFIN, P.L.

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT, 2nd January, 1896.

(For List of Copyrights, &c., Vide Sessional Papers, No. 17.)

On motion of the Honourable Sir Mackenzie Bowell, seconded by the Honourable Mr. Masson, it was

Ordered, That all the Senators present during this Session be appointed a Committee to consider the Orders and Customs of the Senate and Privileges of Parliament, and that the said Committee have leave to meet, in this House, when and as often as they please.