

It will be noticed in the details of the work done, that nearly all the shipping returns transmitted from Quebec are missing, the letter of advice being alone inserted, but the returns either lost or placed elsewhere. A barren abstract of the vessels entered is occasionally at the foot of the letter of advice. It is possible that the missing returns may be found by further search amongst the papers of the Board of Trade, but this is by no means certain. The statistics contained in them would be of great service to the commercial historian, and the importance of these returns is increased by the fact, shown in the Archives Report for 1882, that all the reports relating to Canadian Trade and Customs now in the hands of the Custom House authorities in London, go no further back than 1823. In the Quebec series of the Colonial Office papers, Vol. 56-2, is a paper signed H.T.C., that is Cramahé, dated 10th June, 1765, with an abstract of duties and disbursements in Quebec, from the Conquest, 1759, to October, 1764, with a proposed scale of Provincial duties, but the only complete statement, so far discovered, is that from 1768 to 1783, given in last year's Report.

In the same volume (56-2) are papers by the Baron Masères, who was Attorney-General of the Province of Quebec. Several documents relating to Quebec were published by Masères in 1771, in a volume entitled: "A Collection of several Commissions and other Public Instruments proceeding from His Majesty's Royal Authority, and other papers relating to the State of the Province of Quebec, since the Conquest, in 1760." These reports and commissions do not appear among the Colonial Office papers, with the exception of "A Plan of a Convenient Method of Administering Justice in the Province of Quebec, submitted to Lord Hillsborough, in April, 1770." Of the other two papers in volume 56, one, "Considerations on the Expediency of procuring an Act of Parliament for the settlement of the Province of Quebec," is printed, a few copies having been struck off for the Ministry in 1766; the other, a supplement to the same paper, is in manuscript. Both were published by Masères in a collection of "Occasional Essays," in 1809.

I have been particular in citing these papers, because none of the official reports of that date appear to be among the Colonial papers; at least, they are not among those I have examined. They were sent to the Colonial Office, beyond a doubt, Morgan, an Under Secretary, having been sent to Quebec by the Colonial Secretary in 1769, to report on the state of the laws, &c. His report does not appear among the Colonial papers, nor does that of Carleton, nor do the three reports by Hey, the Chief Justice, and by Masères, the Attorney-General, which were entrusted to Morgan in September, 1769, to be delivered to the Colonial Secretary. Two of the three reports are in the "Collection" by Masères, but Chief Justice Hey's is wanting.

The Canadian documents were submitted to the Law Officers of the Crown in 1771, but their reports are equally missing. There is little doubt that all the documents relating to this subject will be found together, possibly in the Privy Council Office. The report of Marriott, the Advocate-General, dated, "College of Advocates,