

expect is such very moderate compensation as can be arranged by the Printing Committee to cover the copying by typewriter of the documents, indexing, proof-reading and editing. The 600 copies should be mostly bound in calf, and the distribution can be left to the Clerk of the House and the Parliamentary Librarian.

I shall now leave the matter in the hands of yourself and the Committee, with the hope that you will see the advantages of the work I have brought under your notice. It will be, to all intents and purpose, with the addition of the notes and references I propose to make, a Constitutional History of Canada, for the special use of parliamentarians, publicists and students who wish to consult in a convenient and intelligible form those original documents to which they must sooner or later refer in order to obtain a thorough knowledge of the past and present institutions of this country. It is not too much to hope that such a presentation of the original authorities and sources of our history will promote in some degree a more accurate understanding of the constitutional system of the Dominion, which is every day attracting more attention at home and abroad.

Yours sincerely,
JNO. GEO. BOURINOT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
17th March, 1888.

To Hon. L. G. POWER.

DEAR SENATOR,—From the conversation I had with you on Saturday last, I judge that a misapprehension appeared to exist in the minds of some members of the Library Committee as to certain points not very clearly set forth in my letter to the Speaker of the House of Commons. For this reason, I think it advisable to make the following explanations.

1. By reference to my communication it will be seen that I do not there give anything like a detailed statement of all the documents that must appear in due order in the proposed work. Such a statement would necessarily take up many pages of printed matter, and all I pretended to show was the general scope of the volume.

2. The space devoted to the evolution of representative and responsible government in the Maritime Provinces will be, as a matter of course, very ample, since the history of that section of Canada is replete with the deepest interest to the student of our political institutions. This part of the work will comprise the commissions and instructions to Governors Cornwallis, Patterson, Carleton, Lawrence, and others; the special instructions to the Earl of Durham; despatches from Lords Russell, Glenelg and Grey on responsible government, and all other documents material to the understanding of the whole question from the earliest to the present time. On this subject a very interesting communication was published in 1883 in our Sessional Papers from Lieutenant-Governor Archibald, which will be given in its proper place, as of much value to the parliamentarian and publicist.

3. All documents relative to the establishment of British Columbia and Vancouver as Colonies of the Crown, and to the early history of Cape Breton as a separate Colonial Government, will be printed in due course.

4. It must also be understood that the arrangement of documents as given in my first communication is only provisional, and may be materially altered as the work proceeds, and the advisability of making a more convenient division by provinces appears.

5. The original part of the work, prepared by myself, will be as complete as is necessary to show the origin of every statute and document, and will probably run over one hundred pages, entailing much research and study. The index will be made very full, and the French documents carefully translated, some of them for the first time.

In all probability the work will comprise altogether 900 or 1,000 pages of royal octavo.

Yours sincerely,
J. G. BOURINOT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS,
26th March, 1888.