

## PREFATORY NOTE.

AT the inception of the Toronto Public Library, Mr. JOHN HALLAM promised to make a gift of books to the institution, which should manifest his hearty, practical interest in the enterprise. This Catalogue represents the fulfilment of that promise—a most valuable donation, of some two thousand volumes, to the Reference Department of the City Library. To Mr. HALLAM the city owes much, not only for this gift, but for assiduous labour in putting the Library scheme on its feet, and for the realization, so far, of its objects and aims.

The donation, it will be seen, embraces, in addition to its English division, a collection of works on Canada and the New World, of the highest interest to the student of our native annals and of the rich literature of the American continent.

In making a Catalogue of the collection, at the request of the Donor, I have profitably enlarged my acquaintance with "Americana," and gained increased respect for the generous act which has enriched the Toronto Public Library with so handsome and useful a gift. The typographical arrangement is that of the General Reference Catalogue, and the whole work has been carried on under the supervision of Mr. BAIN, Chief Librarian.

G. MERCER ADAM.

TORONTO, *August* 25, 1885.