

# REPORT ON CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

DOUGLAS BRYMNER, LL.D., F.R.S.C., ARCHIVIST.

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Honourable A. R. ANGERS,  
Minister of Agriculture,  
&c., &c., &c.

SIR,—I have the honour to present the report on Archives for 1892.

Since the last report there have been received and are now on the shelves, transcripts of the State Papers for Lower Canada to 1825, a continuation of the administration of Monk and in addition those of Maitland, as acting Governors, Lord Dalhousie as Governor-in-chief, Burton as President of the Council and the resumption of office by Lord Dalhousie in September, 1825. The papers during that period deal with matters of great interest; the proposed Union in 1822 of the two Provinces, with the arguments for and against the proposal, which it is well known did not take effect till twenty years later, the report on grievances, the questions between Upper and Lower Canada respecting the revenue and other subjects held at the time to be of vital importance. The last volume received for Lower Canada, shelf marked Q. 173, contains correspondence from the various public offices. Work is now in progress on the subsequent volumes, those to 1830 being nearly completed, as appears by the monthly reports transmitted by the Honourable the High Commissioner. For Upper Canada, transcripts have been received to 1829, covering the period of Sir Peregrine Maitland's administration and the beginning of that of Sir John Colborne, and work is now well advanced on subsequent volumes, which include the correspondence, accounts, diagrams, &c., of the Upper Canada Company, from the date of its establishment in 1825.

From the frequent inquiries respecting the instructions to the Governors, which were nowhere to be found in a collected form, directions were given to have an exhaustive search made and special orders were issued as to the arrangement and method of copying, so as to have the complete set of instructions, unencumbered with repetitions, where the instructions to one Governor were simply duplicated, with the necessary change of name, &c. The instructions were scattered through various sets of papers in the Colonial Office, but they have now been brought together, arranged chronologically, those noted only, not copied, which contained no change, variations given where these were found, and only such instructions subsequent to the first copied, where such a course seemed to be necessary. The instructions, from 1763 to 1867, are now bound in four volumes, being one each for the Province of Quebec, for Lower Canada, for Upper Canada and for the Province of Canada, after the Union of the two Provinces had been effected. A similar course has been followed with the Governors' Commissions, which were found among the Chancery Patents in the Legal Search Room of the Public Record office, each commission forming part