

“and therefore does not make free grants of their works, except in cases where there are no means of bearing any part of the expenses of their publication.”

Similar applications to the Secretary of the Royal Society, and to the Librarian of the Royal Institution for the advancement of Science, with a view to obtain donations of the published Transactions of the leading Scientific Societies, were attended with less favorable results. I was informed, that these learned bodies made it a rule to present their transactions to kindred Institutions only, by way of exchange for similar works; and that they felt bound to reserve their free grant of books for the benefit of poor Societies or Institutions who were unable to incur the expense of purchasing the same.

Failing in my endeavour to obtain, without cost to the Library, any of these important collections, so indispensable to aid the researches of the student in scientific inquiries, I made every effort to purchase series, as complete as possible, of the publications of the leading learned Societies of *England, Scotland, and Ireland*; and was fortunately able to effect this, to a great extent, and at a comparatively small expense.

The donations to the Library from private sources were few in number; my official position not admitting of general applications of this kind. The names of those gentlemen to whom the Library is indebted for the presentation of books, will be found in the Appendix to this Report. I would beg, however, to make special mention of a contribution received from Mr. *Vincent Brooks*, the well known lithographic artist and printer, towards the formation of a small series I have collected, illustrative of the progress of the art of printing in oils and chromo-lithography. Having selected, from two of the principal houses engaged in such publications, a few specimens towards the formation of a portfolio on these subjects, I called upon Mr. *Vincent Brooks*, whose productions undoubtedly excel anything of the kind elsewhere attempted. Having mentioned my object, and that I was purchasing for the Library of the Parliament of *Canada*, Mr. *Brooks* very liberally presented me with several of his best specimens, including one of peculiar excellence. This is a copy of the “*Lumley Portrait*” of *Shakespeare*, which, by a process of printing, involving twenty-three distinct impressions, presents in appearance and colour, a fac-simile of an old oil painting, so exact as not to be detected from an original oil painting by any ordinary observer. Mr. *Brooks* is in the employ of the Government Department of Science and Art at *Marlborough House*; and he has recently been awarded a gold medal at the *Paris Exposition*.

So soon as the nature of my engagements in *London* permitted, I proceeded to *Paris*. To enable me to make formal application to the Departments of State in *France*, on behalf of the Library, I was entrusted by the Right Honorable Sir *William Molesworth*, and by the Earl of *Clarendon*, with letters to Lord *Cowley*, Her Majesty’s Minister at *Paris*. Upon presenting these letters at the *British Embassy*, I was courteously received by His Excellency the *British Ambassador*, who gave me a letter of introduction to the Imperial Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count *Walewski*. He moreover undertook to see Count *Walewski* personally upon the subject, and to solicit from him the most favorable response that it might be in the power of the *French Government* to afford, to the recommendations of the *British Authorities*. But I need scarcely add, that such is the cordial feeling now happily existing in *France* towards this Country, that it did not require the kind intervention of Lord *Cowley* to induce the Imperial Government to act towards *Canada* with its wonted generosity. Everywhere, in all the Bureaux of State, my applications on behalf of the Library were received with favour and responded to with liberality. I regret that it is not in my power, at present, to go more fully into particulars. Statements promised by *M. Bossange*, our Agent in *Paris*, of all the Donations transmitted to him from the several *French Departments*, have not yet reached me. I am enabled to state, how-