

The following Petition was brought up, and laid on the Table :—

By the Honorable Mr. *Leonard*—Of *John Francis Mahon* and others, of the City of *London*, and Town of *Strathroy*, in the Province of *Ontario*.

The Honorable the *Speaker*, presented to the House the Report of the Librarian on the state of the Library.

*Ordered*, That the same do lie on the Table, and it is as follows :—

TO THE HONORABLE THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF CANADA IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

THE REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN OF PARLIAMENT : RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH :—

Adverting to the mention, in his last Report, of the great and increasing necessity for large additions to the Law division of the Library,—especially in view of the recent establishment of the Supreme Court, in *Ottawa*,—the Librarian has much satisfaction in stating, that during the past Recess, the Executive Government have bestowed special attention upon this matter. Shortly after the close of the Session, the Librarian was instructed to visit the Library of the Law Society in *Toronto*, and to place himself in communication with the Hon. *J. Hillyard Cameron*, Q.C., M.P., for advice in the improvement of our collection of Law Books.

At Mr. *Cameron's* suggestion, a complete series of Reports of the Courts of Law in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, and in the *United States* of America, was obtained, with other works of importance, as a first instalment. At a later period, the Judges of the Supreme Court were appointed, and they have since undertaken the responsibility of supervising all further additions that may be required to our Law Library.—The Hon. Messieurs Justice *Strong* and Justice *Fournier* are now engaged in the selection of books which, when procured, will render the Library, in this department, eminently valuable and complete.

The other divisions of the Library have been duly augmented, so far as our limited space would permit; and a Catalogue of such additions has been prepared for the use of Members. But the difficulty of finding room for the books has been an almost insuperable bar to the progressive improvement of the Library, in literature, science and art.—This hindrance, however, will shortly be removed. The new Building is rapidly approaching completion, and there is no reason to doubt that it will be ready for occupation before the close of the ensuing summer. When the transfer has taken place, it may be anticipated that provision will be made, by the liberality of Parliament, for rendering the Library, as a depository of knowledge, worthy of the magnificent structure which has been erected for its permanent reception.

The donations to the Library, within the past year, from various sources, have been very numerous :—a list of them is hereunto appended; together with a list of works deposited under the Copyright Act.

The number of volumes in the Library at the last Report, was estimated at 75,086.—Since then, about 4,400 volumes have been added: making a total of 79,486 vols.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ALPHEUS TODD,  
*Librarian of Parliament.*

LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT,  
10th February, 1876.

(For the Appendix to this Report vide *Sessional Papers*.)