

Further donations to the Library continue to be transmitted by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of the French, to whose munificence the Province has been already so deeply indebted.

From the House of Commons, and from the English Patent Office also, series of their Official Publications have been received, in continuation of those which they have heretofore presented.

A complete list of the Donations, from every source, will be found annexed to this Report.

Extensive additions in the various departments of the Library have been made since last Session, under the directions of the Library Committee and the Speaker of your Honorable House, including many of the most important Historical and Scientific Works which have issued from the Press in England, France and America, since the reconstruction of the Library, in the year 1855.

The magnificent Ornithological Works of Mr. Gould, which were subscribed for by the Library Committee during last Session, are deserving of especial mention. Folio volumes and parts of these works have been already received, and it is to be hoped that, in due time, the Legislature will be in possession of the whole of the beautiful publications of this eminent Naturalist.

An Orrery or Planetarium, which was ordered last year, has been constructed for the Library, by the Philosophical Instrument makers to the Royal Institution of England, and its arrival in Toronto may be expected from day to day.

Some difficulty has been experienced in finding room for the great number of Books which has been received during the past year; but by the removal of the Imperial Parliamentary Papers to the apartments below the Long Room, sufficient space has been obtained for the present.

In considering the increasing extent, importance and value of the Library your Librarian feels it to be an imperative duty to repeat the suggestion, which he took the liberty to submit in his last Report, namely, that in order to ensure the constant vigilance and care which the preservation of such important property demands, there is necessity for the continual presence, in, or adjacent to, the Library, of some responsible person, connected with the department, and thoroughly conversant with its arrangement and contents. Since last year the best system, short of this, has been pursued, nevertheless there still remains much to be done for the security of the Library from loss or injury, which can only be ensured by the residence on the spot of some Officer of the Department; should this be found impracticable under present circumstances, it is to be hoped that in the Buildings to be hereafter erected for the permanent accommodation of the Legislature, this pressing necessity will be provided for.