

Amongst the payments heretofore made out of this Grant, the Committee observe accounts for the purchase of a limited number of Law Reports, of the Supreme Court, and of the Superior Courts in Lower and Upper *Canada*, for presentation to foreign Libraries, by way of exchange. The Committee are of opinion that these payments ought not to be charged to the Library Grant, but that they should be liquidated by the Government, from the fund available for similar purchases of Books, for the purpose of distribution to the Library Exchanges.

Several Petitions have been made to the Committee, by Canadian authors, for pecuniary encouragement to their respective publications; but the Committee have agreed that they have no jurisdiction to consider such applications. They have resolved to adhere to the decision already made, on two or three occasions since Confederation, that it is the province of the Executive Government to determine, by Order in Council, what Books may be deserving of special encouragement, by the purchase, out of the public funds, of copies to be distributed to Institutions at home or abroad. In arriving at this conclusion, the Committee desire to repeat the hope, expressed in a former Report, which was presented on the 12th April, 1871, that the Government would place in the hands of the Librarian, for distribution to Public Libraries abroad, in return for valuable donations received from them, "a sufficient number of copies of all Canadian works of general utility or special value.

The Committee have approved of the purchase by Parliament of the choice and unique collection of Coins and Medals illustrating the history of *Canada*, from the earliest date in our annals, of which special mention was made in the Report which they presented to both Houses last Session. In the event of their recommendation being sanctioned, and this collection deposited in the Library, it will be necessary that adequate arrangements should be made for its suitable care and preservation, from loss or injury.

The attention of the Committee has been called to the tariff of prices established by themselves,—so far back as in the Session of 1864, in the Parliament of *Canada*, previous to Confederation,—as the proper amount to be allowed to Artists employed in painting Portraits of Speakers of either House of the Canadian Parliament;—and they have agreed to revise the same. In view of the higher appreciation of Art in *Canada*, at the present time, and the ordinary prices chargeable by all portrait painters of established reputation in the Dominion, the Committee consider that four hundred dollars is a suitable and reasonable price to be allowed for each Portrait to be painted for the Portrait Gallery of Parliament; and they recommend that this sum be allowed to the Artist who has been employed in painting the likenesses of the Honorable Messieurs *Anglin*, *Botsford* and *Blanchet*.

SPEAKER'S CHAMBER,  
15th March, 1881.

#### REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF AUDIT.

The Sub-Committee appointed by the Joint Library Committee of Parliament for the Session of 1880-81 to Audit and Report upon the Account of Receipts and Expenditure connected with the Library of Parliament for the past year, present the following Report:—

That they have inspected the accounts and vouchers submitted to them by the accountant—numbered 696 to 803, both inclusive, from March 10th, 1880, to January 17th 1881—amounting to \$9,659.70, and have also examined the several cheques drawn in payment thereof, which they find to correspond therewith, and submit herewith an abstract of the account as indicated by the Books for the information of the Committee.

It will be perceived that a marked improvement in the financial condition of the Library has been effected, the outstanding debt having been reduced from \$6,972.63 in 1879-80 to \$752.47 at the time of the Audit.