

the historical societies and by ardent students of Canadian history, Francis Parkman, George Baby, Abbés Verreau, Bois, Tanguay, Casgrain and others, succeeded in inducing the legislature to vote funds to print several voluminous series of these documents in 1883 and in following years, nor ought one omit recording the hearty co-operation of the late Dr. T. B. Aikins, of Nova Scotia.

A powerful impulse had been given to the collection of public archives in this province, by the creation at Ottawa in 1872, of the archives office, an annex to the department of agriculture, in which our colleague, Mr. Douglas Brymner, has won golden opinions. The indefatigable savant died in 1903 and was succeeded by Dr. Arthur G. Doughty. This learned gentleman as dominion archivist bids fair to be a successful continuator of the good work.

Any one conversant with the neglected state of our archives in the past, will readily admit that the era of collecting and preservation was not commenced one day too soon, though matters in this respect were not so bad in Canada as they were, until lately, in England.

Mr. Brymner, after mentioning the early legislation in England to inquire into the state of public records, and to devise means to preserve them, in the reign of Edward III. (1473), in Queen Elizabeth's time (1559-1603), under James VI. (1617), George III. (1760-1820), William IV., in 1837, notes a striking contrast