

tented amongst us, he volunteered to present the *Canadian* Patent Office with a collection similar to that given to the Library, on condition of his being supplied with certain information concerning *Canadian* Patents, and the Law affecting the same, and of his being assured that the public should have free access at all reasonable hours, to the books and plans he should supply. I lost no time in communicating this handsome offer to the Provincial Department, and before leaving *England* had the satisfaction of receiving from the Imperial Patent Office another complete series of these valuable publications, on behalf of the Province, to be deposited in the Office under the charge of Mr. *Hutton*, Secretary of the Board of Statistics. The books are now in the hands of Mr. *Rich*, our *London* Agent, awaiting directions from the Provincial Authorities with regard to their binding. The copy presented to the Library, I have directed to be suitably bound, and the immense collection of plates to be mounted upon stout cartridge paper. The cost of this will be considerable, from the very magnitude of the work, but I deemed it to be indispensably necessary to incur any needful expense, to render this important series available for reference, and to preserve it from the effects of use. The plans and drawings are published upon very thin paper, and must be mounted at once if they are to be subjected to much consultation. The directions I have given for the binding of the Library copy, are similar to those which have emanated from the Library of Congress, and other similar Institutions possessing a copy of this work.

Taking advantage of the opportunity of my being in *London*, I addressed a letter to Sir *James Melvill*, Secretary of the Honorable the *East India* Company, soliciting the donation of any works issued under the patronage of the Company, having reference to the development of the resources of *India*, and to the language and literature of that country. In his answer, dated 8th November, 1855, Sir *James*, after mentioning that he had laid my communication before the Court of Directors, proceeded to state, that "In reply I am commanded to inform you that the Court will be happy to forward your object as far as lies in their power, and that a list of the works which would be suitable for the Library of *Canada*, and of which copies are available, is now in course of preparation, "under their orders." Up to the time of leaving *London* these books had not reached me; but shortly before my departure, I wrote to the Assistant Secretary of the Company, requesting that, when ready, they might be forwarded to Mr. *Rich*, who was authorized to receive them for the Library. Whereupon, I was assured that the books should be sent to Mr. *Rich* as soon as possible; but that the list of the same had not yet been completed.

Having been instructed by the Library Committee to procure versions of the Bible in the various *European* tongues, as auxiliary to the study of those languages, I applied to the *British* and *Foreign* Bible Society, for a selection of the versions of the Holy Scriptures issued by that body. The Society readily acceded to my request, informing me that they would be able to make up 90 or 100 volumes of this description; and at the same time, expressing a hope that their gift "might be the means of drawing attention to the important and extensive operations carried on by the Bible Society."

I also applied to the Oriental Translation Fund Society, for a copy of their interesting publications, which comprise some of the most curious works extant in Eastern Literature. I received a very kind reply from the Secretary, dated 22nd of December, informing me that he would submit my letter to the Committee at their next monthly meeting, but adding, "at the same time I fear that I do not anticipate that the Society will be able to grant the books entirely as a free gift or grant. But they will possibly offer them to you at a very considerable reduction, i.e. half price. I trust that this proposal will meet your wishes. The Institution is maintained in its efforts by the munificence of individuals,