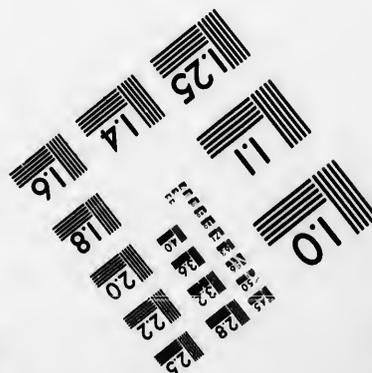
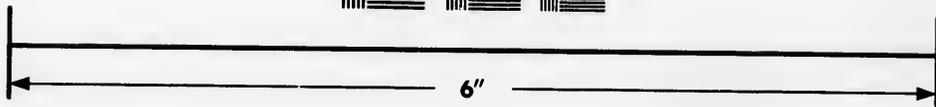
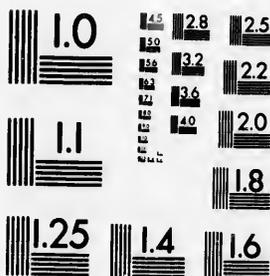


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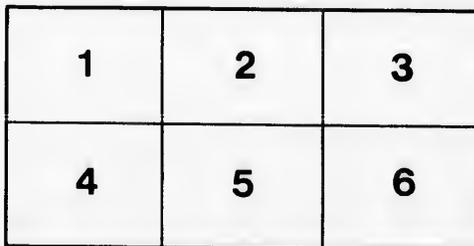
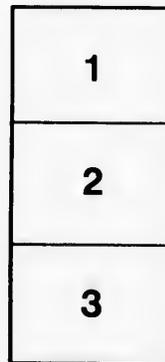
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SECOND SERIES—1895-96

VOLUME I.

SECTION II.

ENGLISH HISTORY, LITERATURE, ARCHÆOLOGY, Etc.

A Plan for a General History

OF THE

Province of New Brunswick

BY

WILLIAM F. GANONG

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V.—*A Plan for a General History of the Province of New Brunswick.*

[Contributions to the History of New Brunswick, No. 1.]

BY WILLIAM F. GANONG.

(Presented by Dr. George Stewart, F.R.G.S.)

INTRODUCTION.

For several years it has been my intention to write a general history of the province of New Brunswick. To this end I have worked assiduously in studying original records, in collecting materials and in analysing and correlating causes and effects in the evolution of local events. I was led to my intention by several considerations; first, the want of a work of any kind upon the subject; second, everything which concerns New Brunswick interests me; third, I wished to make to this, my native province, some return for the personal service which I owe to her, but which I have had to withhold. But lately I have wavered somewhat, and this, not because of loss of interest, nor through pressure of other occupations, nor yet through fear of the proportions of a task colossal enough to appal one who can give to it only a scanty leisure, but because I have come to distrust my own powers of accomplishment in this field. Every man tends to write that kind of book which he likes best to read. A history of mine would be coldly scientific, precise, classified, complete; but it would lack the life and form and colour which should distinguish a history for the people. It is only when he writes for brother students that the modern historian may argue, anatomize and be statistical; when he addresses a general audience he should be first of all an impressionist. I have discovered that in history my tastes are rather those of a pre-Raphaelite, and therefore I relinquish my twelve-year growing desire to try to write a history worthy of my native province.

In the course of my studies I have gathered not a little new and valuable material. To preserve this, I propose to offer it to this society in a series of papers now in preparation. In preface to these, I beg to submit herewith a sketch of the plan I had finally fixed upon for the history. Developed naturally in the study of the subject, the plan has a value, in that it represents an adaptation to the conditions of the case, and therefore shows very nearly the treatment which must be adopted by any good history of the province.

1. UPON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A GOOD LOCAL HISTORY.

In the preparation of a local, or indeed any, history there are two main factors; first, its character, that is, its objects, ideals, and spirit, and, secondly, the events which are its theme. The principles of the former will be the same for all local histories; the latter must vary with the locality.

For the existence of local histories there are many reasons, of which by far the most important is, to enable us to know objectively our social and political environment, and present conditions can be thoroughly understood only when viewed in light of their origin; second, they provide to writers and to readers an intellectual occupation, the healthiest and purest of pleasures, radiant of good influence; third, men having been psychologically alike since the beginning of historic time have caused history to repeat itself, and if we would but mark and heed the rhythm of events, they would form a useful guide to the present, and even a key to the future; fourth, they nurse patriotism; fifth, we have a natural interest in the doings of our fathers; sixth, history takes hold on our imagination and pleasurably appeals to the romantic and the poetic in us, for truth is always stranger than fiction, which is but its satellite, and glimpses through the mists which surround the past, charm us in contrast with the glare of the ever commonplace present.

The qualities which a local history should possess in order best to cultivate these uses are in ideal the following:

It should be accurate and complete. The details of the story must harmonize with the truth and be approved by the stern eye of science. The writer must go direct to every original source of information, must weigh, sift, judge, and distinguish clearly what is certain from what is probable and that from what is possible. The highest attributes of scientific investigation are required here.

It should be impartial, that is to say, objective. A good local history cannot be written by one too deeply concerned in it; it must be the work of a man of travel and culture, of cosmopolitan sympathies, a psychologist who can analyse the motives of men, one who can write not only from a distance but also from a height. He alone can view his field in proper perspective. Impartial, scientific, psychological history is very modern, but its day is dawning and it is even already with us. The older kind worshipped that "idol" of our minds which makes us the chosen people, all in the right, the martyrs or the justly triumphant, and our enemies all bad, all in the wrong, the persecutors, the Gentiles. The new history recognizes that men and nations average much alike, and under the same conditions act much alike; that the relations of victor and vanquished, oppressor and oppressed, loyal refugee and persecuting colonist are matter less of inherent right and wrong, than of

success and failure. To love your enemy as yourself is enjoined to the modern historian.

It should be causative, comparative, symmetrical. The threads of cause and effect should be disentangled and made straight, for in these lie the chief lessons of history. Then, by constant comparison, the progress of local events should be kept in touch with what goes on in the world outside, whether there be organic connection between the two, or whether they be simply parallel or merely synchronous. Local history cannot be clearly understood unless it teaches its own relation to the progress of mankind. And this requires also well-proportioned treatment, all topics receiving, as they do on a good topographical map of whatever scale, emphasis in the exact ratios of their importance.

It should be readable, attractive as a story. For this it should be the work of a master of style, who is at the same time an impressionist in the best sense, one who with bold strokes and strong colouring can make his theme to flash as a living picture before the mental vision of his readers, recalling surroundings as they were, causes as they acted, results as they followed, heroes as they achieved or failed, people as they lived and worked and fought and died. To make the past as vivid as the remembered events of yesterday is the ideal of the picturesque side of the historian's art.

It should have local colour. Especially in local history where great events with their lessons are wanting and interest is chiefly personal, the local or exact-spot idea should be kept prominent. Local peculiarities of customs, traditions, prejudices, superstitions should be recognized. The writer should feel the environment and reflect it, should himself know and love the hills or rivers or plains which give character to the country and its people. In a word the true atmosphere of the locality should be breathed around local affairs.

It should be primarily topical and secondarily chronological. It should be arranged according to periods, each receiving complete treatment and showing its influence upon subsequent ones and even upon the present. Of these periods certain ones are common to most histories, others are peculiar to the special locality. First of all must be treated the physical environment, which powerfully affects the course of history of a country, both by controlling settlement and industries and by moulding the character of the people. The geography, physiography, meteorology, plants and animals have far more influence upon making a people what they are than is generally recognized; second, there are the native tribes, and their character, and their relations to the new-comers; third, there are always the early explorers who were not settlers; fourth, there are the early settlers followed by, fifth, successive waves of population down to the present, the nature of these varying with the locality; sixth, in some form there always comes the struggle for home government.

Finally, it is the resultant of all the past conditions of environment and experiences, together with the fundamental characteristics of the races from which the people have sprung (these characteristics themselves the resultant of still earlier surroundings) which have made any people what they are to-day, and the clear delimitation of these influences is in reality the aim and end of the history.

It should have the narrative and the critical matter separated. Each period should have first its narrative part, unburdened by references and arguments, and forming a complete story in itself, with its introduction showing its relation to what has gone before and to contemporaneous events of the world, and its conclusion showing its influence upon the present. This is for the general reader. For the student this should be followed by critical notes after the manner of Winsor's "America" or Bourinot's "Cape Breton," but answering page to page with the text of the narrative, giving all needful references to authorities and sources of information, bibliographical and biographical and other special notes, with notice of questions requiring investigation. The importance of full bibliography is very great. It is a marked characteristic of the modern historian that he goes directly and sends his students to the original sources of information, just as the modern naturalist goes directly to nature. Finally, there should be a series of appendices to contain the more statistical matter, book-lists, map-lists, lists of place-names and lists and tables generally.

It should be tasteful in its make-up. The best art of the book-maker is not too good for a work which is to appeal to our highest faculties. Its illustrations should be reproductions of old views, maps, portraits, etc., and in no case manufactured pictures.

These I take to be the chief characteristics of the ideal local history. Of course, no single man can ever write such a work, but it is well to have ideals and to strive for them. I do not think the co-operation of several writers succeeds perfectly, for the result is always uneven. Of course it would not pay, and if very local, must be a gift to the public; but thus to give is the blessed lot of most pure scholarship, a not unhappy one, for it is amply rewarded in the doing.

2. THE ARRANGEMENT OF TOPICS IN A HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Following is an outline of the plan above referred to for the history of New Brunswick, a plan which, be it remembered, is not merely personal, but represents an adaptation—mainly an objective, much less a subjective view of the subject.

CONTENTS.

- Vol. I. General Introduction to the entire work.
 Sec. I. The Physiography and Natural History of New Brunswick.
 Sec. II. The Indian Tribes.
- Vol. II. Sec. III. The Early Explorers—Norse, English, Portuguese, Spanish, French. 1000—1604.
 Sec. IV. The Period of French Occupation. 1604—1760.
- Vol. III. Sec. V. The New Englanders and the English. 1769—1783.
 Sec. VI. The American Revolution and the coming of the Loyalists. The Founding of the Province of New Brunswick.
- Vol. IV. Sec. VII. The Progress of the Province of New Brunswick down to Confederation.
 Sec. VIII. Critical Study of the Character of the New Brunswick People in the light of their origin, surroundings and history.

VOLUME I. GENERAL INTRODUCTION. A BIRDSEYE VIEW OF THE ENTIRE SUBJECT, SHOWING THE LOGIC OF THE DIVISION INTO PERIODS.

The interest in New Brunswick history must as yet be strictly local. It has played no part in the world's history, and but a very slight part in that of Canada. It has produced no very great men, none who have materially influenced the world's progress, either as reformer, statesman, inventor, author or scholar. No great decisive battles, military or legislative, have been fought on its soil; no great question has been answered within its boundaries; the eyes of the world have never once been focussed there. Its people show no sharply differentiated characteristics of any kind, and nothing to make them of interest to others. They have developed no special provincial customs nor institutions, not even such trifles as sports, symbols, songs, nor anything that is their own alone. They are not especially enterprising nor cultured. We have no provincial hero, novel nor poem. Even the Loyalist movement, our great event, was not our own alone. The Indian tribes were inoffensive, and since they are living in our own day, no romance can cluster around them. The early explorers mostly passed the province by, and no event of its later history is striking or unique. With one or two exceptions it exhibits no remarkable features of scenery nor special scientific phenomena. It possesses hardly anything which is not better shown somewhere else. These negative characteristics would give no hold for an attempt, even to consummate genius, to make New Brunswick history of interest beyond its own borders. Yet within these limits that history is varied and attractive to an altogether unusual degree. Its topography and scenery even if not grand are of great variety and charm, and its natural productions are many and important. Its people, if not homogeneous, are

yet of good stock and show interesting racial features; if not eminent in any single respect, they nevertheless average extremely well. They are democratic, moral, law-abiding, and solid, honest and clean as the splendid north country they live in. Contrasting political changes have given incident and movement to their past, and there is not wanting the pathos of struggle and suffering and exile, and the joy of triumph, prosperity and hope. There come into view in succession the roving Indian, the hurrying explorer seeking a passage to the west, the picturesque French fur-trader, the colonizing Englishman, the independent New Englander, the exiled Loyalist and the sturdy immigrant from Europe, these giving us a series of distinct periods each with incidents, charms and results of its own.

SECTION I.—THE PHYSIOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

As this subject is the one I know the best, and most local historians the least, I shall outline it somewhat fully, giving to the subsequent topics much briefer treatment.

In its ideal it should contain the clean-cut statistical science of to-day combined with the simple appreciation of nature of White or Thoreau. It should everywhere keep prominent the idea of comparison. It should treat in order:

Chapter I.—Introduction, pointing out the effect of environment upon the history of a people, with illustrations drawn from other lands and times, and outlining the topics to be treated and the logic of their order.

Chapter II.—The place of New Brunswick in comparative geography; absolute and relative size; position on the earth's surface, relation to land and water surface of the globe and to great routes of travel. Illustrated by diagrams to show to the eye facts of relative size and position.

Chapter III.—General Geology and Topography of the Province. Present contour depends upon past geological history and is the aggregate or resultant of it, and every physical feature of the landscape is traceable to a geological origin. The formations from the Laurentian down should be traced, together with the effect of each upon New Brunswick as it is to-day, including the extremely important glacial period so far reaching in its relation to productions and settlement. Illustrated by maps showing the geography at the successive periods, the present watersheds and slopes, etc.

Chapter IV.—The particular Geology and Topography of the Province. Dividing it into sections, based upon the most natural divisions, as for instance into the greater slopes, the Restigouche, Bay Chaleur, Nepisiguit, North-east Corner, Miramichi, Northumberland Strait, Petitcodiac, Bay of Fundy, St. John, and Passamaquoddy, these should be

much more minutely described, with the causes of the courses of rivers, of shape of the coast line, of the hills and marshes, etc., and the tides—their causes and effects.

Chapter V.—The Scenery of New Brunswick viewed in the light of its physical causes as well as aesthetic results. There is one feature in which New Brunswick is singularly rich, and in which she undoubtedly surpasses every other country of equal size in the world, and that is the number and beauty and usefulness of her rivers: she is pre-eminently "The River Province." But in addition to these with their fertile intervales, there are other types of scenery as well, high hills in the interior and bold cliffs at Grand Manan and along the Fundy coast, salt marshes in Westmoreland and great moors in Miscou and Shippegan. New Brunswick scenery is of a rugged, honest, untamed sort, not subdued and humanized as it is in most of Europe, outside of the Alps.

Chapter VI.—Economic Geology and Mineralogy. A discussion without prejudice of the occurrence of mineral deposits and what geology teaches of their probable future, including the demonstration of the small value of certain areas much advertised in boom literature.

Chapter VII.—Meteorology. Study of climate, absolute and comparative; effects of position, ocean currents, fogs, prevailing winds, etc.; local differences and peculiarities; snowfall; general character of summer and winter; effects of climatic conditions upon people; possibilities in agriculture.

Chapter VIII.—Botany. Relation of plants to soil and climate; groups represented in the province; number of species; their character and special biological features; occurrence of colonies from the North and South; their distribution and its relation to past climatic conditions; marine plants. Thanks to the labours of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick, exact data for these studies are being rapidly accumulated. Aesthetic aspects; charm of the northern flora. Economics: the lumber trade.

Chapter IX.—Zoology. Relation of animal life to climate and plant life; groups represented in the province; number of species, distribution, colonies, etc., as above for plants. Economic zoology; influence of fur-bearing animals and of food-fishes upon history and prosperity of the province.

Chapter X.—Summary Chapter on the Progress of the Seasons in the province. The awakening of plant and animal life and their course and relations through the seasons. Aesthetic side of the march of nature; the supreme beauty of the New Brunswick seasons; their variety: charm of bird notes and flowers; summer days and winter storms. The models of this subject are White and Jefferies in England, Thoreau in New England, and, better than all, Hudson in La Plata and Patagonia.

This chapter will fail of its end if it does not recall, or even suggest to a stranger, the true atmosphere of the province.

Chapter XI.—New Brunswick as a land for healthy sport : of free people : for colonists. Effect of topography, climate and natural productions upon character of a people : splendid inheritance of the young New Brunswicker : small appreciation by her own people, who sell its privileges to the highest bidders, but great appreciation by strangers ; good books by Gordon, Dashwood, Sage and others, but no native literature.

Chapter XII.—Place and topographical nomenclature, varied, appropriate and interesting.

Chapter XIII.—Effect of the preceding upon the exploration and settlement of New Brunswick, and the making of the New Brunswick people : the distribution of population ; sites of towns ; what is taught by the preceding as to the future of the province. Mining likely not to be important ; all conditions favourable for agriculture and dairy industry, superiority of the lot of the New Brunswick farmer over that of the Western or European ; abundance of land useless for agriculture but good for trees, and the omnipresent streams and rivers make the province particularly well adapted to timber-culture ; abundance of water-falls and the strong tides promise unlimited cheap power for manufacturing when electrical conduction of power is perfected. Advantages of diverse resources in building up a strong people.

Critical notes to Section I.—Running commentaries on the above page by page, discussing sources of information, value of authorities, notes on development of knowledge in each branch. Biographical and bibliographical notes. References to where special topics are more fully treated, or lists of animals and plants are found, etc.

Appendix 1.—Bibliography of New Brunswick. A list of all works, papers, manuscripts, etc., relating to New Brunswick in general and to the above topics, in proper bibliographical form, with cross references to the preceding critical notes where value of each work is discussed ; preceded by an essay upon bibliography, pointing out the value of consulting original authorities ; æsthetic side of knowledge of old books ; practical value of preserving old works ; pleasures of a collector, etc.

Appendices 2, 3, etc., containing tables, statistics, etc.

Illustrations : Geological maps, diagrams, views of scenery, etc.

SECTION II.—THE INDIAN TRIBES OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

Most works on local history give a chapter to the Indian tribes, but this is generally compiled from various books and repeats old errors. This is particularly the case with books on New Brunswick and I have never seen in one of them anything on the subject which was not worthless. Our writers viewing them from a distance and judging them by their own standards, or finding that they fall below the ideals inspired

by Cooper, and forgetting that like the white man's their training only runs into lines useful to themselves, find them not worth the study, and dismiss them as ignorant and degraded, or else as an inferior order of beings. No scientific student of ethnology has yet given attention to our Indians, and only when such an one gives us the data shall we be able to judge correctly of where they really stand in the scale of humanity.

Chapter I.—Introduction: Effect of wild tribes upon settlement in general. Logic of division of the subject.

Chapter II.—The two tribes, Micmacs and Maliseets, in New Brunswick; description of them, and comparison with other Indians of North America, and other savage races; their character as traced in both habits and language.

Chapter III.—Their ethnological affinities. Whence came they? How are they related to neighbouring tribes?

Chapter IV.—Pre-historic works and mode of life; their ancient village sites; routes of travel; divisions between hunting grounds of the tribes:

Chapter V.—Their condition when first found by Europeans; their customs; accounts of them given by Lescarbot, Champlain, Denys, LeClerc, etc.

Chapter VI.—Their language; primitive and as modified by contact with French and English.

Chapter VII.—Their legends, primitive and as modified; their richness has perhaps been overestimated of late—the promise of Leland's work is not sustained by that of Rand; particularly interesting are those which explain peculiarities of animals and peculiar features of topography.

Chapter VIII.—Their history from their discovery down to the present; their present condition; admixture of white blood; religion; status in law; physique (the World's Fair statistics); relation to civilization; probable future.

Chapter IX.—Their effect upon New Brunswick history and upon her people; this has been slight, but yet appreciable.

Critical notes upon this section, after the method already detailed.

Appendix 1.—Bibliography of the Indian period.

Appendix 2.—Place nomenclature of the Indians, prefaced by an essay on the study of place nomenclature and its general principles. A study of the origin and meaning of all place names of Indian origin, both past and present, arranged in dictionary form.

Appendices 3, 4, etc.—Statistics. Censuses of the Indians, etc. Tables of Indian words adopted by French and English, and of English and French words adopted by the Indians, etc.

Illustrations, maps, photographs of Indians, pictures of objects of their workmanship, etc., etc.

SECTION III.—THE EARLY EXPLORERS: NORSE, ENGLISH, PORTUGUESE, SPANISH AND FRENCH, 1000-1604.

An impartial discussion of the possibility of visits of the Norsemen to our shores. No student has yet claimed that they landed in New Brunswick, but one distinguished student of our early history, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Howley, of West Newfoundland, is working upon the route of the founders of Vinland with a result which makes them land in the province, and his view seems to me to have more in its favour than have those which send them to Nova Scotia, Massachusetts or Rhode Island. Cabot was probably never in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, but certainly other early voyagers entered it and the Bay of Fundy; Cartier explored the North Shore; David Ingram possibly descended the St. John. In a complete history, every possibility should receive discussion and every important theory should be mentioned. Finally came Champlain, and from this time on, we are on more certain ground. Effects of this period upon the following ones. This section of course divided into chapters as in the preceding and having introduction, conclusion, etc.

The cartography of the period is of great interest, and the gradual differentiation of New Brunswick out of the obscurity of the early maps forms a fascinating study in evolution.

Critical notes, as in previous sections.

Appendix I.—Bibliography of the period.

Appendix II.—Place-nomenclature of the period.

Appendix III.—Cartography of the period, prefaced by an essay on the study of cartography: its principles, the personal equation in map-making, historical value, etc., followed by a classified list of maps arranged to show evolution. Each map should be described by giving its date, author, title, size, scale, range.

SECTION IV.—THE PERIOD OF FRENCH OCCUPATION, 1604-1760.

The most picturesque, and hence, in some ways, most interesting era of our history, though with little effect upon its later course. There were struggles with the English, who twice during the period possessed the province, and there was one attack by the Dutch. The attempts at settlement by seigneuries were almost entire failures, and the fur trade was the great attraction. The struggles of LaTour and Charnisay, and the expulsion of the Acadians, stand out sharply in this period. As to the latter event, it would be easier to discuss it calmly had "Evangeline" never been written; by some writers this poem has been so constantly quoted that to many people it has assumed the character of an historical document, almost an original authority. The last word has not been said on the expulsion, and the subject invites impartial investigation. But

time has brought his revenges, and the Acadian people to-day are heaping the coals of fire upon the heads of their ancient enemy, for they form a large and loyal part of the people of the province, and are a bulwark and not a menace to it. An important part of this section is the discussion of the subsequent history and present status of the Acadian people.

Critical notes.

Appendix 1.—Bibliography of the period.

Appendix 2.—Place-nomenclature of the period.

Appendix 3.—Cartography of the period.

Appendices 4 and 5.—List of seigneuries, etc., etc.

SECTION V.—THE NEW ENGLANDERS AND THE ENGLISH, 1760-1783.

The New Englanders at St. John and Manguerville; the Scotch on the Miramichi; the Pennsylvania Germans in Albert County; Admiral Owens's Colony at Campobello; the Yorkshire men in Westmoreland; the English along the St. John; movement back to Maine at close of the Revolution; their effect upon later history.

Critical notes.

Appendices on bibliography, place-nomenclature and cartography.

SECTION VI.—THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AND THE COMING OF THE LOYALISTS. THE FOUNDING OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The most important epoch in our history, and one difficult to treat impartially. The Loyalist movement, the true foundation of the province—the movement meant more to New Brunswick than to the other provinces—it is truly "The Loyalist Province"; state of the country on their arrival; character of the Loyalists; men as free of spirit as those who drove them forth, and with the advantage over them of recognizing authority; how they faced their conditions; a grand subject for the historian.

Critical notes and Appendices, the latter including lists of Loyalist families and where they settled.

SECTION VII.—THE PROGRESS OF THE PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK DOWN TO CONFEDERATION.

Peculiar condition of the Loyalists; their education and character. Problems to be solved by them; their progress in the development of education, religious bodies, settlement, laws, means of transportation, literature, newspapers and periodicals, political parties, manufacturing, agriculture and other industries; definition of boundaries, etc., and, in general, progress in civilization.

Critical notes and Appendices.

SECTION VIII.—CRITICAL STUDY OF THE CHARACTER OF THE NEW
BRUNSWICK PEOPLE IN THE LIGHT OF THEIR ORIGIN, SUR-
ROUNDINGS AND HISTORY.

The most difficult, but if well done, most valuable part of the work. Complete classified index to the entire work; complete map, modern and historical, of New Brunswick, in sections.

New Brunswick has not a complete local history of any kind. Hannay's excellent work ending before the coming of the Loyalists. Probably no other civilized country is so deficient in this respect, and probably in no other civilized country are the archives so inadequately cared for, or in certain lines so nearly wanting altogether. The government of New Brunswick not only has no collection of published works relating to it, but it has not even a collection of its own publications, outside of the journals of its sessions. It would be easier, so far as authorities are concerned, to write the history of the province in London or in Boston than in St. John or Fredericton. But this lack of any history, and total want of appreciation of its need, makes the inducement to write such an one as I have sketched just so much the greater.

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