

FIRST REPORT  
OF THE  
Ontario.  
BUREAU OF ARCHIVES

FOR THE  
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

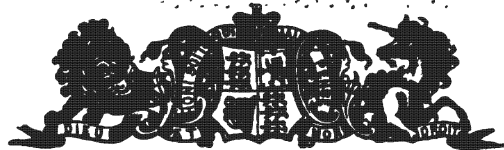
BY  
ALEXANDER FRASER  
ARCHIVIST

1903

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Printed by Order of  
The Legislative Assembly of Ontario

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TORONTO  
Printed and Published by L. K. CAMERON  
Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty  
1904

F1056  
A3  
v.1



WARWICK BRO'S & RUTTER, PRINTERS.  
TORONTO.

TO BE  
AMENDED

P. 2. 5. 18 July 19

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FIRST REPORT  
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*The Honourable* GEORGE W. ROSS, LL.D., &c.,  
*Premier of Ontario.*

SIR,—I have the honour to submit to you the following Preliminary Report in connection with the recently established Bureau of Archives for the Province of Ontario.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER FRASER,  
*Provincial Archivist.*

TORONTO, 31st December, 1903.



# REPORT

ON

# ONTARIO ARCHIVES.

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## Prefatory.

The documents appertaining to the history of a country are now classed among its most valuable possessions. But history has assumed a new meaning with the advance of civilization, and, to-day, the Records of Government, once the student's richest mine, share their importance with the ephemeral memorabilia which concern the life of the people. The historian's point of view has undergone a radical change. A knowledge of the social conditions of a nation is a first requisite to the study or writing of history; hence the high value now placed upon family papers, diaries, account books, etc., which contain the humble records of social and family life. This change has arisen naturally from the gradual widening of the political suffrage, and its reaction upon legislation. The laws reflect the public needs, and in order to legislate wisely and intelligently, the social "atmosphere" and environment, the sequences in social development, must be known. Hence also the importance of documentary history in which a traveller's journal may rank with a political despatch; and the reason why papers from private sources, municipal, educational, and ecclesiastical reports and documents on the one hand, and State papers on the other, are given a place among public archives. The one is the raw material for the general historian, the other for the history of public affairs. Legislation is the expression in legal form of the hopes, ambitions, and necessities of a people. The public archives should furnish material to show how political and social exigencies influence the laws, and how, in turn, the laws affect the common weal.

KINGSFORD: Looking forward to a time when Canadian Archives would receive further recognition at the hands of the Government, Kingsford wrote (Arch. pp. 10. 11.): "It is mere commonplace to point out that every country acts but with ordinary prudence, and fulfils a simple duty, when it preserves its archives and the written materials for its history. So much depends on the fact that history be honestly and truthfully written. Much of our personal liberty of the present time comes from the consideration of the past. We are never so wise as when we profit by the teaching of experience. Everything to be permanent must be slowly and gradually produced. Constitutions may be granted, but they can alone obtain strength from time and usage. They grow to maturity. Hence we require the means of studying their advancement, and we best watch the future by knowing perfectly the trials and difficulties of former days. . . . . When the sources of original information are accessible to all, . . . . inquiry is stimulated by it, . . . . and the historical student who has industry to seek out facts, pushes investigation into the remotest sources."

**BRYMNER:** As far back as 1882 Douglas Brymner, the late Dominion Archivist, foreshadowed the establishment of Provincial Bureaus. In his Report for that year he says: "The policy of having one general collection of historical documents at the seat of the Federal Government, and one special to each Province in each Provincial Capital, is of importance from various points of view. In respect to investigations of a general nature, all the documents should be together, classified and accessible, so that, at the least possible expense, those who desire to study the papers relating to the history of British North America should be able to do so without being compelled to make long and tedious journeys in search of the information wanted. On the other hand, the records of each Province, being in the possession of the Provincial Government, are available for the use of those who only seek to make a special investigation. But there is another and even more important end to be served. The possession of documents in duplicate is a guarantee, to a large extent, of their preservation from destruction by fire. Experience, and not the least that of Canada, shows the risk from this cause, by which documents have been lost that can never be replaced, and it seems almost impossible to collect again the printed records of the past history which have thus been destroyed. By the burning of the House of Assembly at Montreal, in 1849, the whole collection of printed and manuscript records contained in the library and departments in the building were swept away. It was only by the greatest exertions and by appeals to the liberality of those who possessed collections of the papers that single copies of many of them could be secured for the Parliamentary Library. The destruction of the public buildings at Fredericton, New Brunswick, of the Custom House and of the Court House at Quebec, are other instances of the danger to which attention is called. In respect to printed documents the loss is very serious, but it need scarcely be pointed out that it is much more so when original manuscripts are destroyed of which no copy exists."

### Scope of the Bureau.

In assuming the duties of my appointment, involving the establishment of a Bureau of Archives for Ontario, the adage *festina lente* seemed fitting, and the few months which have elapsed have proved its wisdom. I have been impressed by the wide field, and with the variety and importance of the interests concerned, and it has been obvious that the foundations must be broadly laid in order that our civil, political, religious, social, and material history showing the full progress of our life may be built upon them. Nor must genealogical data be overlooked, for the history of an individual may have an important bearing upon the events of a community. Useful suggestions have been found in the systems prevailing in Great Britain and in most of the States of the Union, as well as in the course pursued by the Governments of Nova Scotia and Quebec; but most of all have I been aided by the opinions received from students of Canadian history whose accomplishments entitle them to be heard with respect. Selections from their correspondence will be given in this Report at the proper place. The scheme arrived at is as follows:—

- (1) The Bureau is equally related and attached to all the Government Departments, and shall receive papers and documents of historical interest, not in current use, from all branches of the Public Service. When possible these documents shall be classified and calendared.

The Bureau shall devote attention to:

- (2) The copying and printing of important Ontario records lying in the Canadian Archives at Ottawa, in the State Departments there and elsewhere.

- (3) The collection of documents having, in the widest sense, a bearing upon the political or social history of Ontario, and upon its agricultural, industrial, commercial, and financial development.
- (4) The collection of municipal, school, and church records.
- (5) The collection and preservation of pamphlets, maps, charts, manuscripts, papers, regimental muster rolls, etc., bearing on the past or present history of Ontario.
- (6) The collection and preservation of facts illustrative of the early settlements of Ontario—pioneer experience—customs—mode of living—prices—wages—boundaries—areas cultivated—homes, etc.
- (7) The collection and preservation of correspondence—letters from and to settlers, documents in private hands pertaining to public and social affairs, etc., reports of local events and historic incidents in the family or public life.
- (8) The rescuing from oblivion of the memory of the pioneer settlers, to obtain and preserve narratives of their early exploits, and of the part they took in opening up the country for occupation.
- (9) Co-operation with the Historical Societies of Ontario and societies kindred to them, to help to consolidate and classify their work, and as far as practicable direct local effort on given lines.

### The Plan of Work.

It is proposed to adopt the following plan of work as one on which the various Archives can be easily classified and catalogued, viz.: To divide the history of Ontario until Confederation, 1867, into its political periods, arranging the material secured in chronological order, and giving each period a series of Reports. Thus, the work can be carried on in all the divisions simultaneously, and when sufficient material shall have accumulated in any one of them, it can be utilized either by the publication of documents or calendars in the annual reports without undue delay. From Confederation onward, the larger quantity of material to be dealt with, and the probable absence of sweeping constitutional changes to mark eras, suggest a chronological rather than a political basis of division. The periods are:—

- (1) 1763 To the close of the French Regime, or the period of French Discovery.
- (2) 1791 To the Organization of the Province of Upper Canada.
- (3) 1841 To the Legislative Union of Upper and Lower Canada.
- (4) 1867 To Confederation.
- (5) 1900 To the end of the Nineteenth Century.

In each of these Divisions there is much work to be done. Each has its own distinctive feature, and there is abundance of minor incident.

- (1) For the material belonging to the French Regime I beg to direct attention to an extract from a letter from Lieut.-Col. Ernest Cruikshank on page 36, and to Mr. Coyne's letter page 33 of this Report. They have dealt with the subject so fully that I need not refer to it further here, except to add, as an important work, a portion of the "*Mémoire pour Messire François Bigot*," which contains what seems to be an excellent summary of the commerce and condition of all the Western trading posts at the time of the Conquest.
- (2) In the period between 1763 to 1791 the feature is the Loyalist immigration, with its accompanying settlement, and the conditions and circumstances influencing the form of government adopted for Upper Canada.
- (3) From the organization of the Province to 1841. Here we have the real commencement of our Provincial history, the introduction of constitutional government; the work of the Legislature, some of whose early records are lost; the outbreak of the War of

1812; the progress of settlement, and the development of municipal, educational, and commercial institutions; the restiveness leading to the Rising of 1837, and the concessions made to Responsible Government.

- (4) The period of Legislative Union. Immigration, settlement, and migration are prominent events, while the introduction of railways, the improvement of waterways, the settlement of many great political, educational, and ecclesiastical questions, lend to this period unusual importance.
- (5) From Confederation onwards the periods suggested are fruitful of documentary history, but at such short range it is unnecessary to indicate the special events of unusual interest.

The extent and character of the documents thus collected would determine the arrangement of material for annual publication. Probably a topical grouping would serve best, but there should be no premature decision arrived at in this important matter.

### Locating Material.

In pursuance of this plan, I have made a beginning by familiarizing myself with the character of the papers, etc., deposited in the several Departments; with the contents of a few of the more interesting; and with the office routine affecting correspondence, accounts, etc. The result will be found in brief paragraphs relating to the branches of the public service which I have overtaken, and whose publication here may be useful as indicating to the investigator where certain documents are to be found.

In order to organize the Province on a comprehensive scale a letter has been addressed to every Member of the Legislature, containing a request that he nominate one or two correspondents to co-operate with me in his constituency. The response has been very prompt and encouraging, the nominees almost without exception consenting to act. These are now being asked to name a correspondent for each township, and at the time of writing 117 have agreed to correspond with the Bureau, transmitting information as to local events, locating collections of papers, books, etc., of historical value, and keeping the Bureau in direct touch with their communities. A list of these correspondents when more complete will be published.

Mayors, Reeves, Clerks of Municipalities, Clerks of the Peace, Registrars of Deeds, and other public officers are being communicated with for statements of records under their care and for copies of interesting documents where such can be given.

Secretaries of Synods, Dioceses, and Conferences, Clerks of Presbyteries, stated officials of religious denominations generally, and Public School Inspectors are also being written to for information, returns, and reports of which they are custodians.

National and social societies and public clubs possess information in their papers and minute books regarding the settlement of their countrymen in early times, and concerning the objects they are united in promoting. An effort is being made to utilize this source for the benefit of the public.

Interest in local history has been manifested by some of the "Old Boys" Associations which have multiplied in recent years. It is important that their efforts should follow a definite plan; and the papers and surveys obtained from the Durham Association through the kindness of Professor Squair, and published in this report, furnish a Model which may profitably be adopted for similar work by kindred associations.

The importance of the early collecting of data concerning the business development of the Province has been urged by several correspondents, and in consequence of the representations made to me I have begun a collection of papers, maps, pamphlets, reports, surveys, etc., in connection with the promotion and construction of railways and canals in Ontario, and the hearty co-operation promised by those with whom I am in communication shows a keen interest

n this line of research. In the same way a beginning has been made of a collection of material respecting electric railways and the development of electric power in Ontario. Steps have also been taken for the gathering together of facts regarding the INDUSTRIAL—including the interests of capital and labour—the COMMERCIAL and the FINANCIAL institutions of the Province and rendering them accessible to the student of economics.

It is known that the minute books, reports, and papers of the Quarter Sessions of the Peace are rich in local history and besides contain much that illustrates the operation of the general law. But it is known that many of these interesting books and papers have been lost or are in private hands, so that few districts have complete collections of them. At the suggestion of the Honourable Mr. Justice Garrow, Osgoode Hall, I have begun an enquiry in order to obtain fuller information on this subject than we now possess; and if possible to trace and collect whatever may be available.

The foregoing has entailed a heavy correspondence, but it is satisfactory to be able to report that not in a single case has a letter been denied full consideration, while almost every person addressed has responded most cordially and has indicated considerable interest in these labours.

Arrangements have been made whereby a large number of newspapers will be received regularly, and local biography and history clipped from them and systematically filed.

At Confederation the policy pursued, in assigning the public documents to the Dominion and to the Provinces, was to entrust as few as possible to the Provinces and to retain as many as possible for the Dominion. Consequently there are large collections of Provincial documents lying in the Secretary of State's Department and other offices at Ottawa, copies of which we should at least possess, failing possession of the originals. I am in correspondence concerning these with the view of obtaining more information than we now possess as to their extent and character.

I have also given some attention to the completion of a list of the documents touching Ontario to be found in the annual calendars of the Canadian Archives, by Dr. Brymner, respecting the period of the French Regime, copies of which it is intended to procure for an early report.

A collection of the reports of the Departments and Public Institutions is being completed; the nucleus of what I hope will be a valuable collection of old and new maps of Ontario has been formed; and friends have kindly contributed copies of pamphlets, interesting photographs of persons and places, and original papers of value; but the formal listing and acknowledgment of these must remain until next year's report, when the number will no doubt justify the publication of a calendar.

Steps have been taken to provide for the safe custody of all material deposited in the Bureau of Archives, and the public are assured that papers, books, or other historical material which are valued for personal or family reasons, will, at least, be preserved from destruction by fire, and will be rendered useful historically if transferred to the trusteeship of this Bureau.

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## Offices in Which Archives Originate.

### THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

#### THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE :

The Clerk of the House has charge,—

- (1) Of the Scroll of Parliament, the documents known by that title being the notes and memoranda made by the Clerk of the routine proceedings of the House during its sessions.
- (2) The original signatures of the members of the Legislative Assembly subscribed to the Oath of Allegiance when "sworn in" as members of the Assembly. The signatures are written on parchment.
- (3) Copies of the Statutes in the form in which they have been assented to and signed by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor. These copies are printed on good paper, and after having been assented to become the originals of the Statutes in force.
- (4) The original copy pertaining to the Consolidated Statutes.

#### THE CLERK OF RECORDS :

The Clerk of Records receives and files away,—

- (1) The manuscript of all Sessional Papers not printed. (A Sessional Paper is a return called for by order of the House, whether printed or not; and the Reports of Departments and all branches of the public service presented to the House.)
- (2) The originals of all Petitions presented to the House (these are not printed).
- (3) The originals of Bills in the form in which they are presented to the House; and copies of Bills as amended during their passage through the House.

The original copy of Sessional Papers which are printed is returned with the proof sheets to the Department or officer issuing the same.

### THE LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY.

In the Legislative Library there are records, printed or typewritten, of the proceedings of the Legislatures of Upper Canada, Lower Canada, Province of Canada, Dominion of Canada, and the Provinces thereof, from the institution of each of those bodies to its dissolution, or to the present time—except for the years between 1793 and 1798, and for the years 1813 and 1815—which, so far as is known, are not in existence.

There is also a set of the Official Gazettes except for the years between 1809 and 1822, and for the year 1825.

Also Proclamations of Lower Canada, 1792 to 1836; documents relating to the Seigneurial Tenure; jugements et délibérations du Conseil Souverain de la Nouvelle France. 6 Vols.; Édits et Ordonnances du Conseil d'État du Roy concernant le Canada.

There are no manuscripts in the Library.

### THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Provision for an Executive Council for Ontario is made by B. N. A. Act, Section 63 (See as to Ontario Revised Statutes Ontario 1897, Cap. 14.)

The Prime Minister is the head or Chairman of the Executive Council, and, as such, presides at the meetings thereof. The Premier and two members form a quorum of Council. During the absence of the Premier or Acting Premier, four members of the Council constitute a quorum thereof. All matters requiring Executive action are brought before the Council upon the recommendation or report of the Minister having the subject matter in charge. The recommendation or report is



addressed to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. The Reports of the Committee of Council are signed by the Premier as Chairman, and countersigned by the Clerk or Assistant Clerk, and are then submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor for his approval, which is indicated by his signature under the words "approved and ordered" endorsed on the margin thereof, and thereafter the document becomes and is known as an Order of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council. Effect is given to Orders-in-Council affecting the general public by the promulgation of them in the Ontario Gazette; otherwise by the transmission of copies certified by the Clerk or Assistant Clerk to the Departments or persons concerned. The original Orders (together with the recommendations, reports, and papers upon which they are based), after being recorded by being entered in special journals, are filed in the vault of the Department and are under the custody of the Clerk and Assistant Clerk. The Executive Council Office is attached to the Department of the Attorney-General.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

It would appear that the office of Attorney-General existed as far back as 1763. After the cession of Canada, with all its dependencies, by France to Great Britain, there was an Officer called the King's Attorney-General. What is known as the Great Ordinance Act was passed 17th Sept., 1764, introducing into Canada all the criminal and civil law of England. This Act empowered the Governor to appoint all Officers necessary for the proper administration of the affairs of the Province. The appointment of Attorney-General was then made on the recommendation of the Imperial Government and confirmed by the Governor by Commission under the Great Seal. Mr. George Suckling was so appointed 1764, Mr. Maseres in 1766. Then followed the Quebec Act in 1774, and the Constitutional Act in 1791. The latter Act divided Quebec into the two Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, a separate constitution and representative form of government being granted to each. The manner of appointment of the Attorney-General for each Province, namely, by the Lieutenant-Governor thereof, on behalf of the Crown, continued. Under the Union Act, 1840 (3 & 4 Vic., Cap. 25), the office of the Attorney-General became a statutory one. On the formation of the Ministry under the said Act, William Henry Draper, who subsequently became Chief Justice of the Court of Error and Appeal for Ontario, was the first Attorney-General for Upper Canada. As the law now stands the Attorney-General for Ontario is a Member of the Executive Council and appointed by the Lieutenant-Governor under the Great Seal of the Province—R. S. O. 1897, Cap. 14 (for previous legislation *vide* B. N. A. Act, sec. 134, R. S. O. 1877, Cap. 14, R. S. O. 1887, Cap. 13). The Lieutenant-Governor may, by Order-in-Council, from time to time prescribe the duties of the Attorney-General, and of the Department over which he presides, and of the Officers and Clerks under him.

*Inter alia*, the following matters are dealt with by the Department :

1. The supervision of the Administration of Criminal Justice in the Province.
2. Recommending the appointment of and advising Sheriffs, Registrars, Judicial Officers, Justices of the Peace, Coroners, Crown Attorneys, and Clerks of the Peace; Notaries Public and Commissioners for taking affidavits for use in Courts in Ontario.
3. The consideration of applications for bail and attendance thereon.
4. The consideration and argument of Crown Cases reserved.
5. Hearing applications for the granting of fiats *re* Petitions of Right, Criminal informations, Indictments, actions to set aside Crown Patents and actions to recover fines and penalties, etc.

6. The consideration of applications for the remission of fines and penalties.
7. The administration of estates of deceased persons dying without known relatives.
8. The appointment of Counsel for the conduct of Criminal business.
9. Arranging the circuits and regulating the work of the official Court Reporters.
10. The supervision of the Offices of Osgoode Hall in connection with the Supreme Court of Judicature.
11. The examination of papers in connection with the admission and discharge of lunatics to and from Asylums.
12. The consideration of legal questions arising in cases coming before the Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities in respect of the management of lunatics' estates and also in the preparation and revision of conveyances where sales are made.
13. The consideration of matters of a public nature, such as proposed legislation, etc.
14. Advising on legal questions arising in the various Departments of the Public Service.
15. Drawing special conveyances, etc., in connection with the sale or purchase of property under the Public Works Act or otherwise.

The following branches of the Public Service are, at present, attached to the Attorney-General's Department :

1. Inspector of Insurance and Registrar of Loan Corporations, Inspector and Registrar Mr. John Howard Hunter, K.C., appointed 1st April, 1881.
2. Inspector of Registry Offices, Inspector Mr. Donald Guthrie, K.C., appointed 2nd May, 1896.
3. Neglected Children's Branch, Superintendent and Inspector Mr. John Joseph Kelso, appointed 28th June, 1893.
4. Provincial Municipal Auditor's Branch, Auditor Mr. John Burnett Laing, appointed 23rd April, 1897.
5. Criminal Investigation Branch, Chief Inspector John Wilson Murray, appointed 1st July, 1875.  
Inspector Joseph Edwin Rogers, appointed 1st March, 1885. Inspector William Greer, appointed 1st April, 1892.

#### OFFICERS OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT :

Attorney-General, Hon. John Morison Gibson, K.C., assumed office 21st October, 1899.  
Deputy Attorney-General and Clerk Executive Council, John Robison Cartwright, K.C., appointed 30th March, 1889.  
Assistant Clerk Executive Council, James Lonsdale Capreol, K.C., appointed 11th March, 1876.  
Law Secretary, Allan Malcolm Dymond, K. C., appointed 30th March, 1889.

#### ATTORNEYS GENERAL SINCE CONFEDERATION :

Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald, 6th July, 1867.  
Hon. Adam Crooks, 20th December, 1871.  
Hon. Oliver Mowat, 25th October, 1872.  
Hon. Arthur Sturgis Hardy, 14th July, 1896.  
Hon. John Morison Gibson, 21st October, 1899.

#### DEPUTY ATTORNEYS-GENERAL & CLERKS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL SINCE CONFEDERATION :

Robert Gladstone Dalton, 6th July, 1867.  
John Galloway Scott, 24th October, 1870.  
James Lonsdale Capreol, Asst. Clerk, Executive Council, 10th March, 1876.  
Ebenezer Forsyth Blackie Johnston, 2nd October, 1885.  
John Robison Cartwright, 30th March, 1889.

**NEGLECTED AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF ONTARIO :**

During the past fifteen years the care and protection of neglected and dependent children has received a good deal of attention in Ontario, and the example and good work of this Province have been extensively copied, not only throughout Canada, but by the United States and Great Britain.

The origin of this movement only goes back to 1885. In 1886, Mr. John Joseph Kelso organized the Toronto Humane Society, which espoused the cause of neglected children as well as the kind treatment of dumb animals. In 1887, he brought into existence the Toronto Fresh Air Fund, and in 1891, the Children's Aid Society of Toronto. The Royal Commission appointed by the Ontario Government in 1891, to study problems of crime and pauperism, reported so strongly in favor of preventive work among children that the Ontario Children's Protection Act was drawn up by the Hon. J. M. Gibson, and passed the Ontario Legislature in May, 1893, Mr. Kelso being appointed the following month as general superintendent, a position which he has held to the present time. The records of the office, dealing as they do with children many of whom become reputable and successful citizens in after life, are treated as private, and are practically inaccessible to the public.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.**

From the nature of the functions of this Department, records of documents pertaining to a variety of interests are included among its papers. The distinctive duties connected with the portfolio are : Provincial Secretary, Provincial Registrar, and Registrar-General. Branches of the service at present attached to the Department are : Public Institutions, such as Hospitals, Asylums for the Insane, Reformatories, Gaols, Charitable Institutions, the License Branch, the Administration of Justice Accounts Branch, Provincial Board of Health, etc.

The office of the Secretary is the medium of communication, through His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, between the Provincial, Dominion, and Imperial Governments, and all such correspondence is registered and copies of the despatches are kept. All commissions bearing the Great Seal of the Province are issued by the Secretary, and are registered in his office, as are also all appointments made by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council requiring the issuance of a commission. Charters of Incorporation, Licenses for extra-Provincial Companies doing business in Ontario, and Marriage Licenses are issued here, and applications from municipalities for change of boundaries, for water works, electric lighting, gas supply, etc., are dealt with.

The office receives annual returns from all Chartered and Licensed Companies; and collects the fees for Charters, Licenses, and for Marriage License forms issued, and the moneys so received are deposited twice a week in the Provincial Treasury. The sum for 1903 amounted to \$120,686.07.

The late Mr. George Edward Lumsden, whose appointment as Assistant Secretary was dated 11th Nov., 1880, was succeeded in that office on the 16th of Nov., 1903, by Thomas Mulvey, K.C.

**OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR :**

In the vault attached to this office will be found the Records of all Crown Land Patents (of lands now in Ontario) issued by the late Provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada, the earliest record being dated May, 1795; also, the Records of all Crown Land Patents issued by the Government of Ontario, and all Mining Leases and other Deeds and Leases relating to the Public Lands,—Records of all Letters Patent incorporating Joint

Stock Companies, Insurance Companies, and Loan Companies,—Records of all Commissions of Public and Legal Offices, such as Sheriffs, Registrars, Crown Attorneys, Coroners, Magistrates, License Commissioners, License Inspectors, Notaries Public,—Records of Warrants removing Lunatics from Gaols to Asylums, Records of Warrants discharging Lunatics, and other Public Documents. Mr. John Frederick Campbell Ussher was appointed Deputy Registrar 1st February, 1873, having joined the service in November, 1869.

#### OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL :

The vital statistics of the Province are kept by the Registrar-General, whose office dates from 1869. From the organization of the Province until 1849 marriages were recorded in the parish and congregational registers kept by clergymen, in the Minute Books of the Quarter Sessions of the Peace, and in the Memorandum Books of Justices of the Peace. In addition to this, fairly complete records of births were made in the baptismal registers, and of deaths in the journals of clergymen, who recorded the deaths of parishioners for congregational purposes. Many of these old books, however, have been either lost or destroyed, or their disposition is not known. In 1849 provision was made in the Municipal Act enabling the municipalities to make provision by By-law for the Registration of births, marriages, and deaths, and advantage was taken of that statute to a very considerable extent. From the passing of that law in 1849 until 1874 all records of marriages in the Province were returned to the City and County Registrars, who became their official custodians. In 1869 the office of the Registrar General was established and compulsory registration of births, marriages, and deaths introduced. Until 1874 the returns were still sent to the County and City Registrars, but since 1874 they have been sent direct to the Registrar-General's office. The work of transcribing these returns and preserving them in proper form has been proceeding for years ; and the documents, books, and statistical papers of the office, which are in safe keeping, form an invaluable collection of archives.

The Deputy Registrar-General from 1869 to 1891 was Hugh S Crewe; and from 1891 to the present time, Peter Henderson Bryce, M.A., M.D.

#### PROVINCIAL BOARD OF HEALTH :

Provision for the public health in the early days generally followed an outbreak of disease or epidemic. The first Board in Ontario was formed in 1832, in consequence of the cholera scourge at that time, which was followed by the Health Act of 1833, renewed year by year, and giving the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council power to appoint a Board of Health. In 1839 this Act was made permanent, but was superseded in 1849 by a new Act, the main feature of which was the appointment of a Central Board of Health, with power to make regulations and appoint local Boards of Health throughout the Province. The Central Board was appointed in 1849, 1854, and 1856, all cholera years. In 1882 the Provincial Board of Health was established as the first permanent Health Branch of the Civil Service. In 1894 the present Public Health Act was passed, making it compulsory upon municipalities to appoint local Boards of Health and Health Officers. These Acts as amended and consolidated constitute the Provincial Health Act of to-day. Local Boards report monthly and annually to the Provincial Board of Health, and these reports disclose the health conditions of the Province, including data as to sanitary improvements, water-works' systems, sewerage, etc., in the municipalities. Since 1882 the Secretary of the Provincial Board of Health has been Peter Henderson Bryce, M.A., M.D.

#### LIQUOR LICENSE BRANCH :

The documentary data connected with the administration of the License Laws of Ontario are deposited in the License Branch, from which office the License Commissioners and License Inspectors are nominated. The revenues derived from fees, licenses, fines, transfers, etc., which constitute the license fund, are collected by this Branch, and

among the papers are many facts of interest to the municipalities. In 1876 the late Mr. Henry Totten was placed in charge, and this year he was succeeded by Mr. Eudo Saunders, the present occupant.

#### ADMINISTRATION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE, ACCOUNTS BRANCH:

This office is one of the oldest in the public service; the costs of enforcing the criminal laws having been in a large measure borne by the Government from the organization of the Province. When the municipalities were formed they shared the cost of administering the laws. By 9 Vic., Chap. 58, provision was made that fees for certain services were to be refunded to the counties, and Audit Boards, known as County Boards of Audit, were formed throughout the Province for the purpose of passing upon these accounts, their function being to check accounts as between the individual and the county. Alongside of these Boards were the Government Boards of Audit, to check accounts concerning the county and the Province. This machinery is that now in existence, and the accounts, having been dealt with by these Boards, are transmitted to this Branch, where the final official audit is made by the officer designated Inspector of Criminal Justice Accounts. This office also deals with other accounts which do not come before the Boards of Audit, such as those incurred by Sheriffs, Criers, and Constables for services at non-jury Courts, Clerks of Assize, local Registrars, accounts of Judges and Sheriffs for preparing Voters' Lists in the unorganized territories and hearing appeals arising in connection with such lists: also with accounts for the revision of Voters' Lists, Judges' Accounts for services in grouped counties; accounts for all legislative elections and those arising out of controverted election trials, and in connection with the system of Provincial Police.

These accounts often disclose interesting facts; and the correspondence and documents connected with them sometimes throw a vivid light on conditions existing in certain sections of the country, particularly in unorganized territory, where affairs are in a preliminary stage. The documents are preserved in fire-proof vaults and can be easily referred to. The Inspector and Auditor is Mr. Eugene Alexander MacLaurin, whose appointment dates from 1872.

#### THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

The Treasurer of Ontario has been generally entrusted with several important Branches of the service in addition to the duties of his own Department. For instance, Agriculture was attached to the Treasury for many years, with the collateral branch of Immigration. The office is the repository of all the public accounts, wherever originating, and from a documentary standpoint is a treasure-house of valuable information. The public accounts have been described as the barometer of a country's success; and it is satisfactory to know that those of Ontario are well housed and reasonably secure from any danger of destruction. The index system adopted is simple, and no difficulty is experienced in tracing an entry through official routine to its source.

Since Confederation, the Provincial Treasurers have been:—

Hon. Edmund Burke Wood.....	16th July, 1867
“ Alexander Mackenzie.....	21st Dec., 1871
“ Adam Crooks.....	25th Oct., 1872
“ Samuel Casey Wood.....	19th March, 1877
“ James Young.....	2nd June, 1883
“ Alexander MacLagan Ross.....	2nd Nov., 1883
“ Richard Harcourt.....	16th Sept., 1890
“ George William Ross (Premier).....	17th Oct., 1899

The Deputy Treasurer since 15th November, 1904, has been Mr. Walter Nicol Anderson.  
2 B. A.

**THE SUCCESSION DUTY OFFICE :**

This office was established as the result of the passing of the Succession Duty Act, 1892, which came into force on the 1st of July of that year. There are now kept on record affidavits made by the applicants on all applications for letters probate or letters of administration in the Province showing the value, as at the date of the death of a deceased person, of such person's estate with a general statement of the distribution thereof. These affidavits made were first required in all cases in November, 1902. Prior to this time and since then also there have been required and are on file papers, including copies of wills, affidavits of value, bonds and other documents which in particular cases have been furnished in order that the amount of succession duty payable, in cases liable to payment, might be ascertained. These documents are not generally accessible to the public, as they relate to the private concerns not only of deceased but of living persons. The office and documents are under control of the Treasurer of the Province, and the Succession Duty Office, which is a branch of the Treasury Department, is in charge of the Solicitor to the Treasury. When the office was established Mr. Alfred McDougall, Barrister-at-Law, was appointed the Solicitor and held office until October, 1902, when he was succeeded by Mr. Francis Ford, Barrister-at-Law, the present occupant.

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.**

The records concerning the Agriculture of the Province practically begin in 1846. From the organization of the Province until that year fairs were held in many localities and were, as a rule, well supported by the communities in which they were held ; but it soon became evident that a system which would produce combined effort would be advantageous, and in 1846 this idea found embodiment in the formation of the Provincial Agricultural Association. From it grew the Board of Agriculture and the Bureau of Agriculture, and a report issued in 1856 contained the records of the previous ten years' work. Since that year reports have been systematically issued, though not one for each year, and material of great value is to be found in their pages. In 1869 the Agricultural and Arts Association was formed. This body gave considerable attention to the Mechanical Arts and Manufactures as well as to Agriculture. At Confederation the Hon. John Carling was Commissioner of Agriculture and Public Works. As the Legislature had not met to make appropriation for 1867, he did not appoint his departmental staff until the beginning of 1868, when Professor Geo. Buckland and Mr. Wm. Edwards were appointed Secretaries.

The first work of the latter was to prepare for submission to the Legislature the Bill to incorporate the Provincial, County, and Township Agricultural and Horticultural Associations ; the Mechanics' Institutes and the Ontario Association of Mechanics' Institutes ; the Ontario Society of Arts ; the Dairy, Poultry, Fruit-Growers', and Entomological Societies (31 Vic., Cap. XXIX). Mr. Edwards was also Secretary of the Immigration Branch from 1870 to 1873, when the late Mr. David Spence was appointed to that office.

In 1869 and 1870, for the information of settlers, returns were obtained from all the municipalities of cleared and uncleared farms and land for sale. A return was also obtained of all swamp lands needing to be drained.

At this time interest in technical education arose, and the Department took up the question. The manufacturers and others interested were communicated with, and replies were obtained from many hundreds of correspondents as to the benefits that would accrue from the establishment of a School of Technology. It was thereupon formed and housed, with Dr. Wm. H. Ellis in charge, in the building now occupied by the Public Library. This school was turned into the present School of Practical Science. When the school became

congested, and larger quarters necessary, influential representations were made in favour of placing the institution within the jurisdiction of the University of Toronto. This view, however, did not prevail, and the School of Practical Science was otherwise established. The idea of technical education in Ontario is much older than the beginning of the School of Technology, and Mechanics' Institutes were conducted in the larger centres for many years before that time. In 1871 steps were taken to provide an Experimental Farm and Agricultural College, eventuating in the establishment of the Agricultural College and Experimental Farm at Guelph. In 1881 the Report of the Ontario Agricultural Commission was issued, containing much interesting information respecting the townships then settled. The Agricultural and Arts Association continued as an auxiliary until 1888, when it was taken over by the Department of Agriculture then formed, with the Hon. Charles Drury as Minister. After the retirement of the Hon. John Carling, agricultural interests were attached to the Department of the Provincial Treasurer, in connection with which they remained until 1888. Mr. Drury was succeeded in 1890 by the Hon. John Dryden, the present Minister. The Deputy Minister is Mr. Charles Canniff James, M.A., whose appointment dates from June, 1891.

The two most conspicuous branches under the immediate jurisdiction of the Department are the Bureau of Industries and the Agricultural College and Experimental Farm at Guelph.

#### BUREAU OF INDUSTRIES :

This branch was formed in 1882, and its work has been very much appreciated by the public. It issues statistical reports annually, dealing with agricultural and municipal interests. Municipal statistics, including assessment figures, population, areas assessed, taxes imposed, annual receipts and expenditures, assets and liabilities, chattel mortgages, etc., have proved of great commercial and financial value to the public generally, as well as of great importance to municipal debenture holders.

Occasionally labour statistics have been furnished, and supplements dealing with various labour questions, such as labour organization, labour legislation, strikes and lock-outs.

In 1896 and 1897 supplements to the reports of the Bureau, containing original papers on municipal and agricultural subjects viewed mainly from a statistical standpoint, and having much historical interest, were issued.

#### AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE AND EXPERIMENTAL FARM :

The experimental work carried on by the College is outlined in the official bulletins, which have an enormous free circulation among the farmers of the Province; copies are also sent for reference to public libraries, mechanics' institutes, and to all agricultural and electoral societies. Usually as many as 30,000 copies of each issue are distributed, and in the course of a year the number of reports and bulletins sometimes reaches 500,000 copies. These reports and bulletins are a practical guide to the farmer, and are devoted to the needs of the passing hour, thus furnishing a history of practical agriculture as it exists year by year in the Province.

#### DEPARTMENT OF CROWN LANDS.

The Department containing the largest quantity of historical data relating to Ontario is that of the Crown Lands. It is the successor to the office of Surveyor-General, dating back to the cession of Canada, 1763, when Samuel Holland was appointed for the Province of Quebec. In 1784 Mr. Holland appointed Philip R. Frey to be one of the Deputy Surveyors in the Upper District of the Province of Quebec, his territory being Niagara and Detroit. In 1788 Wm. Chewett, Patrick McNiff, James and Hugh McDonald, Alexander Aitkin were appointed Deputy Surveyors to receive claims and applications for land. In the same year the five old Districts were formed, surveys proceeded, and the records of settlement began to accumulate.

At the organization of the Province, David William Smith was Surveyor-General, and was succeeded by Messrs. Chewett and Ridout conjointly, in 1802. Then followed Charles Burton Wyatt and Thomas Ridout, W. Chewett (acting) and Samuel P. Hurd in 1832, John Macaulay 1836, Kenneth Cameron 1840, Thomas Parke 1841, when the office was consolidated with the Department of Crown Lands.

#### COMMISSIONERS OF CROWN LANDS :

The first Commissioner of Crown Lands was Peter Robinson, who was appointed by Commission dated 17th July, 1827, "Commissioner for the sale and management of Crown Lands in the Province of Upper Canada," and his instructions from the Lords of the Treasury were dated 18th July, 1827.

To the Commissioner of Crown Lands was committed the management and disposal of all public lands reported by the Surveyor-General to be open for sale. The purchase moneys of these lands when received were carried to the credit of the funds to which they belonged in distinct books, under the heads of Crown Lands, Clergy Reserves, Military Reserves, Six Nations Indians, Big Island Indians, Port Credit Indians, Munsee Indians, Mississauga Indians, and the Wyandots and other Indians on the Huron Block. An account of the moneys received for licenses and timber duties was likewise kept in his office.

The Hon. Robert Baldwin Sullivan was appointed Commissioner in succession to Mr. Robinson, on the 14th July, 1836, and he held the office up to and subsequently to the union of the Provinces.

The following is the list of Commissioners from the Union to the present time, with dates of appointment :

Hon. Robert Baldwin Sullivan, from 10th February, 1841, to 30th June, 1841.

" John Davidson, from 23rd July, 1841, to 12th October, 1842.

" Augustin Norbert Morin, from 13th October, 1842, to 11th December, 1843.

" Denis Benjamin Papineau, from 3rd September, 1844, to 7th December, 1847.

" John Alexander Macdonald, from 8th December, 1847, to 10th March, 1848.

" John Harvey Price, from 11th March, 1848, to 27th October, 1851.

" John Rolph, 28th October, 1851, to 30th August, 1853.

" Louis Victor Sicotte, from 17th August, 1853, to 26th August, 1853.

" Augustin Norbert Morin, from 31st August, 1853, to 26th January, 1855.

" Joseph Cauchon, from 27th January, 1855, to 30th April, 1857.

" Etienne Pascal Taché, from 16th June, 1857, to 24th November, 1857.

" Louis Victor Sicotte, 25th November, 1857, to 1st August, 1858.

" Antoine Aimé Dorion, from 2nd August, 1858, to 6th August, 1858.

" Philip Michael Matthew Scott VanKoughnet, from 7th August, 1858, to 18th March, 1862.

" George Sherwood, from 27th March, 1862, to 23rd May, 1862.

" William McDougall, from 24th May, 1862, to 29th March, 1864.

" Alexander Campbell, from 30th March, 1864, to 30th June, 1867.

#### SINCE CONFEDERATION :

Hon. Stephen Richards, 1st July, 1867, to 25th July, 1871.

" Matthew Crooks Cameron, 25th July, 1871, to 21st December, 1871.

" Richard William Scott, 21st December, 1871, to 30th November, 1873.

" Timothy Blair Pardee, 4th December, 1873, to 19th January, 1889.

" Arthur Sturgis Hardy, 19th January, 1889, to 14th July, 1896.

" John Morison Gibson, 21st July, 1896, to October, 1899.

" Elihu James Davis, 21st October, 1899 ; still holds office.



**THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONERS DURING THE SAME PERIOD HAVE BEEN :**

Tancred Bouthillier, 19th August, 1841, to 30th April, 1850.

Andrew Russell, 18th July, 1857, to 20th August, 1869.

Thomas Hall Johnson, 21st August, 1869, to 8th January, 1887.

Aubrey White, 1st February, 1887 ; still holds office.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands has control of the sale or management of Crown, Clergy, School, Free Grant, and Mining Lands, the sale of timber berths, issuing licenses to cut timber, collecting timber dues, ground rents, etc. Attached to the Department are the Surveys Branch, the Patents Office, the Bureau of Mines, the Bureau of Colonization and Immigration, and the Bureau of Forestry.

**SURVEYS BRANCH :**

The material of historical interest in this Branch is exceedingly varied and exceedingly valuable. Here are to be found the records of the surveys of the Province ; the original maps, field notes, and diaries relating to the survey of all the Townships of the Province, dating back to 1784, and reports of all the explorations made within the limits of the Province since that date ; reports showing the planning out and surveys of the old military roads, such as Dundas Street Yonge Street, the Penetanguishene and Kingston Roads, and the papers in connection with the surveys of the Talbot Road, the Huron Road, the Garafraxa Road, the Toronto and Sydenham Road (Owen Sound). There is much valuable information in the notes concerning these pioneer roads. This Branch also contains plans of all the old Indian Reserves of the Province and reports indicating the condition of the Indian Settlements on these reserves ; also of the ordnance surveys in the Province pertaining to land grants to old settlers ; plans of the military reserves and plans shewing the location and groundwork of the early forts. Besides these there are the original surveys of all the lands acquired by the Canada Company and of those granted to King's College. A collection of much importance is that embracing the diaries or journals of David Thompson, the Astronomer Royal, covering a period of 66 years, from 1784 to 1850, and making about fifty volumes. Thompson's famous map shewing the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from a little south of the Great Lakes to Hudson's Bay, is carefully preserved in the collection. Thompson's journals and map have furnished interesting material to students of our early history. They have been used by Mr. Coles in his work entitled "New Light on the Great North-West," and have been found useful in connection with editions of Henry's and Thompson's Journal. Competent authorities regard Thompson's work as most valuable to the State, especially in the fixing of boundary lines ; but of little less importance are the field notes and diaries of many of the early surveyors, not merely for topographical reasons but on account of the detailed information given.

The Director of Surveys is Mr. George Brownley Kirkpatrick.

**PATENTS BRANCH : Chief Clerk, Lieut.-Col. Charles Stephen Jones.**

Deposited in this Branch are many valuable and interesting documents, including the United Empire Loyalists' lists, the Records of Land Grants to Immigrants, to Discharged Soldiers, and the Militia Grants of warrants to discharged troops, to United Empire Loyalists, Volumes of Land Board Certificates, Returns of Locations compiled for the Quartermaster-General, Fiat and Warrant Books, Domesday Books, containing original entries of every lot that is patented, and extending to twenty-six large volumes ; Descriptions and terms or references on which patents and leases are issued ; Patents for Crown Lands, Mining Lands, Free Grant Lands, and Mining Leases. There are also a series of Maps of the Townships of the Province as surveyed, which have this advantage over those in the Surveys Branch, that the names of the original holders and settlers are entered on

each lot or block of land. These maps shew the grant made to King's College and the lands allotted to the Canada Land Company. The historical value of these records is inestimable, for without them the settlement of the Province could not be traced or shewn.

#### BUREAU OF MINES :

The Bureau of Mines was established in connection with the Department of Crown Lands in the year 1891, by Chap. 8 of the Ontario Statutes of that year. The object, as declared in the Act, was to "aid in the promoting of the mining interests of the Province," and it was provided that the head of the Bureau should be known as the Director of the Bureau of Mines and should act under the direction of the Commissioner of Crown Lands. No doubt the action of the Legislature in creating the Bureau of Mines was due to a recommendation by the Royal Commission on the Mineral Resources of Ontario in its report published in 1890, which gave a complete account of the progress made by the mining industry in Ontario to that date, and made a number of suggestions with a view of promoting the welfare of the industry and the development of the Province's mineral wealth.

The following extract from the introduction to the Eleventh Report of the Bureau of Mines will convey an idea of the methods adopted by the Bureau to achieve the end for which it was created and the fields in which its energies are employed :

"No formal plan of operations was outlined for the Bureau by the Legislature, which left means and methods to the discretion of the head of the Department and of the Bureau for the time being ; but the effort has been to make the work of the Bureau as practical and useful for economic ends as possible.

"Doubtless the Bureau's principal function is the collection and publication of information which will be of service to those actually engaged in the business of mining as prospectors, miners, or mine owners, as well as to promoters and capitalists looking for opportunities of interesting and investing money in the development of the Province's mineral resources. Such information embraces a very wide range of subjects, but at its foundation lies a knowledge of the geology and mineralogy of the Province, without which any attempt to exploit and develop the mineral wealth of the country would be mere groping in the dark. This knowledge can only be obtained at first hand by actual work in the field, and as a matter of fact there is much of the geology of the Province which is yet unknown or known only in the most general way. The Geological Survey of Canada has the whole of the Dominion under its care, and though probably a fair share of attention has been devoted to Ontario, there are yet extensive districts in the Province whose rock formations have not been studied even in the most superficial manner. The surveying expeditions sent into Northern Ontario in 1900 by the Government of the Province made us somewhat more familiar with the outcropping rocks north of the Canadian Pacific Railway, but from the nature of things the expeditions returned with much more information respecting the timber and agricultural capabilities of the soil than of the geology of the region, or of the existence of valuable minerals. Indeed, in the limited time at the disposal of the parties, it was not to be expected that search for mineral deposits would be made.

"Nevertheless, the labors of the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines have resulted in accumulating a considerable body of useful knowledge respecting the geological phenomena of the more readily accessible portions of the Province, and in various districts the way has been cleared for more detailed examination and the tracing out of mineral-bearing formations or known mineral belts. A number of such districts have been visited and explored by competent geologists on behalf of the Bureau ; characteristic occurrences of ore have been studied and described ; geological and mineralogical conditions favorable

to the existence of ore bodies have been carefully noted ; geologically colored maps of mineral regions have been prepared and published, and much other information acquired of a kind likely to aid the prospector in his search for mineral veins or deposits, or in other ways calculated to be of use in the mining industry, especially in its early stages. The results of these labours have been given to the public from year to year in the Reports of the Bureau, for which there has been a steady and active demand, not only in Ontario, but throughout the whole of Canada, from Great Britain, and from the United States and other foreign countries. These Reports, too, have given the yearly statistics of the mineral output of the Province, by means of which the development of the industry or of any branch of it can be traced. For several years past, figures showing the quarterly output of the metalliferous mines and works of the Province have also, in accordance with the Mines Act, been collected and given to the public.

"The field of the Bureau's operation is very far from being exhausted ; on the contrary, opportunities to extend its work increase and multiply with the general development of the Province. The opening up of Northern Ontario is a question deeply occupying the public mind, and the settling upon the waste lands of the Crown of a hardy and productive population is a prime necessity if Ontario is to keep in step with the progress of the continent or maintain her pre-eminence among the confederated Provinces of the Dominion. That there is a great mineral wealth in the northern and western portions of Ontario can no longer be doubted, and upon its utilization in the near future must to some extent depend the speedy development of these districts, especially where the land is not well adapted for agriculture.

"But it is not in Northern Ontario only that there is scope for the best energies of the Bureau. The palæozoic rocks of the south-western peninsula differ greatly from the Huronian formations of the north and north-west portions of the Province in the character of the economic minerals which they contain ; but the petroleum and gas wells, the salt and gypsum beds, the limestone and sandstone quarries afforded by the Silurian and Devonian formations of settled Ontario, as well as the beds of marl and clay, the banks of sand and gravel, and the peat bogs overlying them, are not less important and useful in their ways than are the iron, copper, nickel, gold, and silver found in the older rocks of the east, north, and west. More or less data with regard to the non-metallic deposits of the palæozoic formations exist in the Reports of the Geological Survey, of the Bureau itself, and elsewhere, but it is fragmentary and scattered through many volumes, and hence is difficult of access to the ordinary inquirer. There is need of the overhauling of the information already on record, as well as of fresh investigations in the field, the amount of original work done since the days of Logan, Murray, and Hunt, now about forty years ago, having been but small."

The Bureau of Mines has two diamond drills which it places at the service of those requiring their services to explore mineral deposits, together with the skilled help necessary to operate them. Inspection of the working mines of the Province is also part of the Bureau's duties.

The first Director of the Bureau of Mines was Mr. Archibald Blue, who previous to his appointment was Deputy Minister of Agriculture, and had also been secretary to the Royal Commission on the Mineral Resources of Ontario mentioned above. Mr. Blue was appointed on the 5th day of March, 1891, and remained in that position until the 31st July, 1900. He was succeeded by Mr. Thomas William Gibson, who had previously been Secretary to the Bureau since shortly after the date of its establishment. In addition to Mr. Gibson, the following are the officers of the Bureau of Mines : William Edward Hall Carter, Secretary and Inspector of Mines ; Mr. Willet G. Miller, Provincial Geologist and

Inspector of Mines. Mr. David Griffith Boyd occupied the position of Inspector for the Michipicoten Mining Division for some years previous to the 31st December, 1903, when he was transferred to the Survey Branch of the Crown Lands Department.

The publications of the Bureau of Mines consist of twelve annual volumes, one for each year since its establishment: Bulletin No. 1, on the Gold Fields of Western Ontario; Bulletin No. 2, Anthracitic Carbon or Anthraxolite; Bulletin No. 3, Michipicoten Mining Division; Bulletin No. 4, Output of Minerals in Ontario, 1901; Bulletin No. 5, Peat Fuel, its Manufacture and Use; and Manual of Explosives, 1900. Other publications consist of Regulations respecting Mining Divisions, Regulations *re* the staking out of Mining Locations in unsurveyed territory; The Mines Act; Regulations *re* Control and Working of the Government Diamond Drills; Regulations to govern the Payments out of the Iron Mining Fund; Regulations respecting Corundum-bearing lands; Catalogue of the Ontario Mineral Exhibit at the Pan-American Exposition at Buffalo, 1901, etc.

The documents filed with the Bureau of Mines consist, in the main, of letters and communications addressed to it concerning matters under its charge. For the most part the papers dealing with mining lands are kept in the vaults of the Department of Crown Lands and so also with the plans of the townships and other surveys required to be consulted in the course of the Bureau's work. Letter books containing copies of the letters sent out from the Bureau and other books of record, such as books containing copies of Orders-in-Council affecting matters under the charge of the Bureau, the registration of claims staked out in mining divisions and in unsurveyed territory, etc., form part of its working material. A number of maps, mostly geologically colored, have been issued from time to time of the mineral districts of the Province, but these are chiefly included in the Annual Reports, and are to be found along with them. Collections of minerals and samples are made representative of the various portions of the Province, and these are kept on hand in cases for exhibition or are displayed at fairs or exhibitions when occasion requires.

#### BUREAU OF FORESTRY:

The Ontario Bureau of Forestry was created in 1895 by direction of the late Hon. Mr. Hardy, then Commissioner of Crown Lands, Mr. Thomas Southworth being appointed Director.

Previous to this, in 1883, the late Robert William Phipps was appointed under the title of Clerk of Forestry to issue pamphlets or reports on tree planting and forest preservation, and to conduct a campaign of education among the individual landholders of the settled part of the Province, where it was felt that the country was being too rapidly cleared of trees, to the detriment of agricultural interests. The Clerk of Forestry was attached to the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Phipps' first report was published in 1883, under the title of "The Necessity of Preserving and Replacing Forests." Subsequent reports were issued by Mr. Phipps much on the same line in 1884, 1885, 1886, and one in 1887-8, in 1889-90, and in 1891.

On the death of Mr. Phipps in 1882, the office remained vacant for some time, and was subsequently filled by the appointment of the late Hon. Christopher Finlay Fraser in 1894, whose sudden death early in 1895 rendered the office again vacant.

The office in May, 1895, was made a Bureau of Forestry and placed under the direction of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, the Director being required to undertake, in addition to the educational work previously carried out, a study of the question of reforestation and forest preservation on the lands of the Crown, and to act in an advisory capacity to the Commissioner of Crown Lands in developing a practical forestry policy for the Government.

Reports have been issued from the Bureau in 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900-1. In 1898 a Royal Commission of Forestry was appointed, composed of the late E. W. Rathbun, Deseronto, Chairman; John Bertram, Toronto; Alex. Kirkwood, Department of Crown Lands; J. B. McWilliams, Superintendent of Forest Rangers, Peterborough; and the Director of Forestry, Secretary. Their preliminary report was published as an appendix to the report of the Bureau of Forestry in 1898, and a subsequent report of the Commissioner in 1899.

In 1899 the Director of Forestry was appointed to act as Superintendent of the Forest Reserves created under the Forest Reserves Act of 1898. These Reserves at the present time include the Eastern Reserve in the Counties of Frontenac and Addington, of approximately 80,000 acres; the Sibley Reserve of 45,000 acres on the north shore of Lake Superior; and the Temagami Reserve in the District of Nipissing, containing 3,776,000 acres.

#### BUREAU OF COLONIZATION :

With the confederation of the Provinces in 1867 a distinct branch of the Government service of Ontario was Immigration, attached first to the Department of Public Works, but later on transferred to the Treasury Department. Originally considerable sums were annually expended in this service, one year reaching over \$150,000. Of late years, however, the annual expenditure had been reduced to a sum sufficient to defray the expenses of one office in Liverpool, England, and a distributing office for immigrants maintained in the old Parliament Buildings on Front Street, till their demolition in 1902 and then removed to the Union Station, Toronto.

From 1873 to 1902, when his death took place, Immigration was in charge of the late David Spence, Secretary for that Department.

With the accession to the Premiership of Hon. G. W. Ross in 1899 it was decided to create a Bureau of Colonization to take charge of Immigration and also of land settlement in Northern Ontario.

The Bureau of Colonization was placed under the direction of the Commissioner for Crown Lands, and Mr. Thos. Southworth was appointed Director.

The work of the Bureau, in addition to Immigration, consists in preparing literature concerning the various land districts, and affording advice as to desirable locations to intending settlers. This work has been greatly taken advantage of by the public and has become very extensive.

#### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Public Works and Agriculture were associated from Confederation until the close of 1878, when the former became a separate Department. The Annual Reports show the dates of the erection of Public Buildings, Bridges, Locks and Dams, the improvements to waterways and the construction of colonization roads, railways, and the extent of these interests may be judged from the following facts:

The Architect has charge of construction and maintenance repair of about 400 Institutional and other Public Buildings.

The Engineer has charge of 6 Navigation Locks and Dams; about 100 Reserve Dams; 10 Swing Bridges over navigable streams, besides several fixed bridges; also about 50 Timber Slides and 75 Piers and Booms in connection with navigable water.

The Superintendent of Colonization Roads keeps accounts for the making and maintenance of about 450 Roads, 50 Bridges, 21 Drains, etc., in the unorganized portion of the Province.

The title-deeds, plans and specifications, contracts, maps, and documents relating to these institutions and works, making a large and valuable collection, are kept in this Department. The Branches attached to it are those of Highways, Fisheries, and the Labour Bureau.

The dates of service of the several Commissioners are as follows:—

Hon. John (now Sir John) Carling.....	July, 1867.
“ Archibald McKellar.....	January, 1872.
“ Christopher Finlay Fraser.....	April, 1874.
“ William Harty.....	June, 1894.
“ Francis Robert Latchford .....	October, 1899.

The present Departmental officers are as follows:—

Commissioner .....	Hon. Francis Robert Latchford.
Ast. Commissioner.....	Archibald William Campbell.
Secretary.. ..	William Edwards.
Consulting Architect and Surveyor....	Kivas Tully.
Accountant and Law Clerk.....	James Pawson Edwards.
Architect.....	Francis Ryley Heakes.
Engineer.....	Richard Purdom Fairbairn.
Supt. of Colonization Roads.....	Henry Smith.

#### HIGHWAYS BRANCH:

The Highways Branch was organized in 1896 under the Department of Agriculture and was transferred to the Department of Public Works in 1900, Mr. A. W. Campbell being Commissioner of Highways since the office was created. The work of this Branch deals with general highway improvement, engineering advice and services with respect to road and bridge construction being given to Municipal Councils and officials throughout the Province.

#### BUREAU OF LABOUR:

By an Act passed at the Session of 1900 of the Legislature, a Bureau of Labour was established for Ontario for the purpose of collecting, assorting, and publishing information relating to Employment, Wages, Hours of Labour, throughout the Province; Co-operation, Strikes or other labour difficulties; Trades Unions, Labour Organizations, the relations between Labour and Capital, and other subjects of interest to workingmen, together with such information relating to the commercial, industrial, and sanitary conditions of wage workers, and the permanent prosperity of the industries of the Province, as the Bureau may be able to gather. In developing the objects aimed at by the Bureau, statistics and other data regarding the conditions of the people, the relations between capital and labour, facts relating to trade, commerce, and industry have been accumulating and already form a collection of considerable extent. The Bureau is under the direction of Mr. Robert Glockling, and is attached to the Department of Public Works.

#### DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES:

In consequence of the Government of the Dominion of Canada having assumed that Fisheries and Fishing rights and the property therein throughout the Dominion were vested in the Dominion generally, and under such assumption of right had collected revenues in respect of such Fisheries and Fishing rights, notwithstanding a continued and vigorous protest on the part of this Province—and probably by other Provinces—and private litigation having arisen, and the inconvenience of two claimants to the property having been realized, it was ultimately, on pressure by Ontario, deemed necessary and

expedient to obtain the decision of the Supreme Court of Canada, with appeal to the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council, not only as to the respective rights of the Dominion and the Provinces as to Seacoast and Inland Fisheries, but also as to the proprietorship of the ungranted public lands within Canada (whether they were Dominion or Provincial property), in respect of which proprietorship Ontario contended that the question of fishery rights was largely affected. With respect to Fisheries, the Dominion claimed that, under the British North America Act, authority was vested in the Dominion Parliament to legislate respecting Seacoast and Inland Fisheries, and that consequently Parliament could enact laws with respect to Fisheries without reference to either Dominion or Provincial ownership of the bed of the lake or river itself; and that the right of control, including the issue of licenses for fishing privileges in the waters mentioned, so far as they were within Canadian territory, was therefore vested in the Dominion Government; and in respect of waters flowing over ungranted public lands, the Dominion claimed absolute title, including the lakes and rivers, navigable and unnavigable. The Supreme Court, however, and subsequently Her Majesty's Privy Council, swept away the greater part of these contentions—which Ontario had opposed, except always admitting to the Dominion the right to legislate respecting close seasons and the implements of capture, and the general right of the Dominion for the purposes of revenue to tax fishing, as it could by legislation impose a tax on any business.

The Judicial Committee by their advice to Her Majesty held :

That the beds of all rivers and lakes (which had not been granted) were the property of the Province in which they were situated ;

That the waters of such rivers and lakes, and the fish therein, were also Provincial property ;

That the sole right to issue fishery leases, licenses and permits to fish, and to receive fees for such leases, licenses, and permits, was vested in the Provinces exclusively ;

That a Provincial Legislature is not empowered to enact fishery regulations and restrictions, either generally or unless and until the Dominion Government sees fit to deal with the subject ;

That a Provincial Legislature is empowered to deal with fisheries in so far as they fall within the description of property and civil rights, or within the description of any other subject assigned to Provincial Legislatures ; and

That a Provincial Legislature may impose a license duty on fishing in order to raise a revenue for Provincial purposes.

Soon after the receipt of the Privy Council judgment, the Ontario Government declared to the Federal Government its readiness to assume the duties which the judgment had determined to devolve upon the Province, and several conferences between the Honourable the Minister of Marine and Fisheries (the Hon. Sir Louis H. Davies) and the Honourable the then Premier of Ontario (the Hon. Mr. Hardy) were held at Ottawa and Toronto. At one of these conferences the various provisions of the judgment, so far as they referred to fisheries, were taken up and discussed *seriatim*. Though there may have been a slight difference of opinion as to their Lordships' meaning on some points, it was on the whole considered by the representatives of the two Governments that the prerogatives of the respective Governments had been so clearly defined by their Lordships that there need be no serious apprehension of any conflict of authority in the exercise of their several functions.

In 1897 the Legislature of the Province passed an Act respecting Fisheries, to be brought into force on such day as the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council by a proclamation might appoint. The Act had, however, been framed in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Court, and before the appeal to the Privy Council had been disposed of, and it was therefore deemed necessary that some amendments should be made before the Act

could be put into operation. An early session was convened for the purpose, among other things, of passing the needed legislation to bring the Act into operation, to provide for the establishment of a Fisheries Department, the taking over of Dominion records and documents, the granting of leases, licenses, etc., as first steps towards developing this recently recovered valuable property and exercising oversight over the same for its perpetual preservation, by the establishment of such a policy as would commend itself to the fishermen whose livelihood depends upon its preservation, and the community at large, and by requiring a strict observance of the laws and regulations enacted for that purpose.

Mr. Samuel Tovel Bastedo, who had been connected with the Ontario Civil Service for nearly twenty years, in the capacity of Private Secretary to the Honourable Sir Oliver Mowat and the Honourable Arthur S. Hardy, was charged with the organization of the Department in 1898, under the Commissionership of the Honourable Mr. Hardy. The office staff consists of a Deputy Commissioner and five assistants, besides an outside staff of some 120 officers under pay. The documents of the Branch are of considerable volume and public interest.

#### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

The archives of the Department of Education are naturally voluminous, comprising as they do annual returns concerning public schools, high schools, collegiate institutes, colleges and universities, and papers reaching as far back as 1846. So rich a mine has found an indefatigable compiler in John George Hodgins, LL.D., O.M.I., the Librarian and Historiographer of the Department, whose massive documentary History has now reached its 10th Volume. Dr. Hodgins has also brought together a collection of Canadian books which students find useful in historical research.

#### THE CANADA COMPANY.

The papers of the Canada Company are interesting historically on account of the large areas of land held by them for settlers upon which Villages, Towns, Cities, and flourishing communities have grown. A complete set of the Annual Reports of the Company from 1826, now rare, is in the Toronto Office and duplicates of the despatches are stored in the Head Office, London, England. The collection contains very valuable material, but while carefully indexed for office purposes, no finding list or calendar has been attempted.

#### ST. MICHAEL'S PALACE.

The archives of the Arch-diocese of Toronto, which are deposited in St. Michael's Palace, are extensive and full of interest, reaching back as they do to the days before the erection of the diocese, and embracing official correspondence of the Church as new settlements were formed. The archives have been partially arranged and classified by Mr. Hugh Fraser Macintosh, whose work has been a labour of love, and is a tribute to his industry and devotion to a good cause.

#### TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

During the past 20 years the Toronto Public Library has accumulated a large collection of documents and letters interesting to the student of the early history of Ontario, and of especial interest to the City of Toronto from the connection of the writers with its early history. Among these are the papers of the first Surveyor-General, D. W. Smith; of Chief Justice William Dummer Powell; William Jarvis, first Secretary of the Province, and of the Hon. Robert Baldwin, Attorney-General. Altogether these collections, with a number of smaller lots, amount to some 300 volumes, carefully bound and indexed, and accessible to all students.



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CANADIAN INSTITUTE.

The Library of the Canadian Institute is devoted almost exclusively to the Arts and Sciences. But while the papers read at the meetings of the Institute and published in its journals are generally of a scientific rather than an historical character, there are still many valuable contributions among them to the history, archaeology, and physiography of Ontario. A few years ago a bibliography of these papers was compiled by Professor D. R. Keys and published, and a list of accessions is being prepared for publication which will provide a useful finding list to the investigator.

## TORONTO UNIVERSITY.

While the loss to the University of Toronto by the destructive fire of 1890 has been in many respects irreparable, a large collection of books has been made since then which form a valuable library, naturally of greatest interest to the University student. Papers and documents of the University, however, mostly escaped the fire, on account of having been housed in the Bursar's quarters, which, at that time, were not connected with the University building, and are now deposited in the muniment room, which is fireproof and commodious. Among many papers of interest are those concerning the grants of land to King's College and the correspondence concerning the allotment and sale of these lands to settlers. King's College lands were distributed through many Townships, and the papers connected with each Township are grouped separately, and each transaction arising out of the sales is easily traceable. The charter of the College, recently presented to the University by His Lordship the Bishop of the Diocese, and some very interesting early documents, letters, and account books are also to be found here.

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The Archives of the Law Society, of the various offices and Courts at Osgoode Hall, and the Municipal Archives of Toronto, in which most interesting documents are to be found, I have not yet reached, nor have I had time to examine the other branches of the Public Service not referred to above.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

The courtesy for which the officers of the Civil Service of Ontario are noted has been generously extended to me. The officers and clerks in the Departments have offered every facility in their power, often at some inconvenience to themselves, to enable me to conduct these preliminary enquiries, and I gratefully acknowledge their kindly attitude and desire to aid me in my labours.

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## DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

The following reports are published and distributed by order of the Legislature :—

## SESSIONAL NUMBER AND TITLE OF PAPER :

- 1 The Report of The Public Accounts.
- 2 The Estimates.
- 3 The Report of The Crown Lands Department.
- 4 The Report of The Director of Forestry.
- 5 The Report of The Bureau of Mines.
- 6 The Report of The Queen Victoria Niagara Falls Park.
- 7 The Report of The Commissioner of Public Works.
- 8 The Report of The Inspector of Factories.
- 9 The Report of The Registrar-General.
- 10 The Report of The Inspector of Insurance.
- 11 The Report of The Registrar of Loan Companies.
- 12 The Report of The Education Department.
- 13 The Report of The Toronto University.
- 14 The Report of The Agricultural College.
- 15 The Report of The Experimental Union.
- 16 The Report of The Fruit-Growers' Association.
- 17 The Report of The Fruit and Experimental Stations.
- 18 The Report on Fumigation Appliances.
- 19 The Report of The Entomological Society.
- 20 The Report of The Beekeepers' Association.
- 21 The Report of The Poultry Association.
- 22 The Report of The Dairymen's Association.
- 23 The Report of The Live Stock Association.
- 24 Hand Book Women's Institute. [*Printed for distribution only.*]
- 25 The Report of The Farmers' Institutes.
- 26 The Report on Ontario Fairs and Exhibitions.
- 27 The Report of The Bureau of Industries.
- 28 The Report of The Instructor in Road-making.
- 29 The Report of The Bureau of Labour.
- 30 The Report of The Game Commission.
- 31 The Report of The Department of Fisheries.
- 32 The Report of The Temiskaming & N. O. Ry. Commission.
- 33 The Report of The Inspector of Division Courts.
- 34 The Report of The Inspector of Legal Offices.
- 35 The Report of The Inspector of Registry Offices.
- 36 The Report of The Board of Health.
- 37 The Report of The Provincial Secretary and Registrar.
- 38 The Report of The Inspector of Lunatic and Idiot Asylums.
- 39 The Report of The Inspector of Prisons and Reformatories.
- 40 The Report of The Inspector of Hospitals and Refugees.
- 41 The Report of The Institute for The Blind.
- 42 The Report of The Institute for the Deaf and Dumb.
- 43 The Report of The Superintendent of Neglected Children.
- 44 The Report of The Inspector of Liquor Licenses.
- 45 The Report of The Municipal Auditor.
- 46 Elections.

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Selections from Correspondence.

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PROFESSOR GEORGE M. WRONG, TORONTO UNIVERSITY.

DEAR MR. FRASER :—It is good news for the cause of historical study, in this Province, that the Ontario Government is establishing an Archives Department, and I congratulate you on your appointment.

May I urge that you will, first of all, endeavour to deal with the material in the Government offices? Scattered in the various departments there must be much material of great importance, the existence of which has been forgotten. You would be doing an immense service if you found out what there really is. No one knows it except in a fragmentary way. It will be a considerable task to ransack the archives of the different departments. There must be much in MS. which is invaluable, and to collect even the printed material would be an immense service. The printed Government Reports ought to be all brought together in one place. There are many old maps, surveys, etc., and these if not soon collected will be hopelessly destroyed. I fancy there is a task of many months before you in simply finding out what we have here in Toronto.

But there is much beyond this: The early industrial history of this Province is already of great interest to many, and this interest will grow. Even in this new country villages have come and gone and the fact is almost forgotten. The villages which were practically extinguished by the advent of the railways would furnish an interesting subject of enquiry, and evidence can be secured now which within a few years will have disappeared. I fancy, too, that many records of early life—letters and papers—in private hands are in danger of destruction, and if not secured soon they will not be secured at all. You will have to do a good deal of travelling to track out this material, but this you are, I suppose, prepared for.

We ought to have in Toronto duplicates of a good many of the documents in the Archives at Ottawa, and this I hope may be arranged for. But above all, we want a vigilant man, looking out *all the time* for the records of our earlier conditions, and it is a comfort to know that the man has now been found in you.

Yours sincerely,

GEORGE M. WRONG.

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PROFESSOR ADAM SHORTT, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, KINGSTON.

DEAR MR. FRASER :—Personally, I am very much pleased to know that the Provincial Government have taken steps toward the establishment of a Department of Provincial Archives.

Broadly speaking, I should suppose that the function of the Provincial Archivist would naturally flow in two lines. First, and most important, would be the collecting, in original or copy, of all the available historical material, official and unofficial, relating to the various interests of the Province, from its earliest period. Second, would be the publishing of an ample calendar of that material, and also, from time to time, the printing in full of some of the most interesting and concise documents, either not hitherto published, or not readily available. Thus, for instance, lists of land grants, or of the early settlers; minutes of municipal councils, or of various societies; the proceedings of various courts, or commissions; parish registers, etc., should all be secured for the Archives, in copy at least. But such material need only be calendared as a guide to its contents. On the other hand, narratives of exploration, accounts of the life and experiences

of the people in the early settlements, reports of various bodies on the condition of the country, etc., should be printed in full, as having a general interest.

As to the collection of materials, it must be remembered that it is not in accordance with the best traditions, either in Europe or America, that the originals of the various historical records of the country should be collected into one centre. There are many places where quite valuable historical material is duly prized by the people of the locality for local and personal reasons, and the removal of this material to a distant centre would tend to deaden rather than to stimulate and diffuse interest in historical matters. At the same time, so long as these scattered records remain unique, there is always the possibility of their destruction, from one accident or another. It is also impossible for the student of the history of the country as a whole to either discover, or avail himself of, these scattered sources, within reasonable limits of time, energy, or means. It is, therefore, necessary that at least authentic copies of all documents having a historical value should be provided within one central depository. As sources of historical information, accurate copies are quite as valuable as original documents, and commonly much more legible, as those will well appreciate who have consulted the Dominion Archives, the most valuable portion of whose treasures consists of copies.

The Historical Manuscripts Commission in Britain has rendered an immense service, not only to that country, but to the world at large, in making known the historical treasures which are distributed throughout scores of private libraries in Britain, and in furnishing in ample calendars the gist of their contents.

Thus, in the Dominion Archives at Ottawa, in various public and educational libraries, throughout the Dominion, as well as the Province, and in many private collections, there are to be found valuable manuscript records, as well as quite unique printed matter, dealing with important phases of our Provincial history, of which copies ought to be obtained for the Provincial Archives, thereby rendering these scattered materials available in one centre and reducing the risks of loss.

For some years to come, I should consider that the publication of special volumes of Provincial records should not be allowed to interfere with the far more urgent work of the Archivist in attending to the discovery, collecting, copying, arranging, and calendaring of Provincial historical material of every available kind and of every period. I trust that you may be given every facility for the adequate accomplishment of this very necessary work.

Yours truly,

ADAM SHORTT.

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REV. PROFESSOR WM. CLARK, D.C.L., TRINITY COLLEGE, TORONTO.

DEAR MR. FRASER :—Regarding the establishment of a Bureau of Archives for our Province, I cannot imagine that there can be two opinions as to its value, provided the work be pursued on correct lines. Even if we had not the lead of other countries to follow, the necessity and utility of provision for the preservation of our public documents, etc., would be evident.

I need not go into details. They will occur to everyone who is competent to form a judgment on the subject, but I join in the general wish that you may be successful in building up an important department.

Yours most truly,

WILLIAM CLARK.

## REV. PRINCIPAL CAVEN, D.D., L.L.D., KNOX COLLEGE.

DEAR MR. FRASER :—I am glad that Ontario has followed the example of older communities in having established a Bureau of Archives, and that our Province is not to be subject to reproach as *incuriosa suorum*. The Bureau will collect and safely preserve the material of history, taking history in the widest acceptation. Official documents of value, legislative, judicial, municipal, educational, etc., will then be placed in safe keeping, and will be available when the historian or legislator wishes to consult them. A reasonable expenditure for such a purpose will not be grudged by an intelligent people.

There must be a suitable place for the custody of the documents collected,—a place which shall give sufficient room, free from damp and well ventilated. There are doubtless other requisites of safe preservation which those who have experience in such matters will readily suggest.

WM. CAVEN.

## REV. CHANCELLOR BURWASH, D.D., L.L.D., VICTORIA UNIVERSITY.

DEAR MR. FRASER,—It gave me great pleasure to note your appointment by the Ontario Government to the important office which you now hold. That pleasure has been increased by the fact that the office has been placed in the hands of a man who is a scholar, a man of literary ability, and of deep interest in historical questions. I cannot say too much as to the importance and value to the 'country of the work of which you are placed in charge. Nothing is more important to a country than its history, for it is our past history which creates the public sentiment and moulds the patriotic character of our entire citizenship. We have a history in Ontario well worthy of preservation. The fathers and builders of this Province were men and women to be proud of, and the foundations of our civil, social, intellectual, and religious institutions were laid in deeds of heroic sacrifice which deserve remembrance throughout all generations. The attention of the Ontario Government has been none too soon directed to this important subject. Our historical societies, and such labourers in the field as Dr. Hodgins, know full well how rapidly the most valuable early materials are perishing for want of care, and I am sure that the Government of Ontario will be amply justified in the most liberal measures to secure at once the preservation and publication of whatever historical material can now be secured. Your programme is a most comprehensive one, and I can only wish you the most complete success in the task which has been assigned you.

Yours sincerely,

N. BURWASH.

## MR. J. H. COYNE, B.A., ST. THOMAS, ONT.

EX-PRESIDENT ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

To the Honourable the Premier :

In March, 1898, at a meeting of a Special Committee named by me, under the authority of a resolution of the Pioneer and Historical Association of the Province of Ontario, for the purpose of considering the re-organization of the Association, I read a memorandum in which I outlined the work of the proposed re-organized Society. It was printed in the Report of the Special Committee, but as that Report is, I think, out of print, I shall repeat that portion of the memorandum which outlines the Society's work, It seems to me that the duties assigned to Mr. Fraser could easily be made to fit in with the Society's work, and this, I understand, is also your own wish.

3 B.A.

In the memorandum referred to I said :

The work of such an Association naturally divides itself into the following classes, arranged chronologically :

(a) Archaeological :

Including the Examination of Mounds, Ossuaries, Ash-heaps, and other Pre-Historic Remains.

This work is already so well attended to by Mr. David Boyle, that it may for the present be omitted from the scope of the Association's operations, except so far as incidental to its other objects.

(b) Aboriginal History :

This includes an inquiry as to the original savage occupants of Ontario, their origin, migrations, traffic, and intercourse ; their language, topographical nomenclature, folk-lore, and literature, the origin and development of their clan, tribal, and national organization ; the history and results of European contact ; their present condition, capabilities, and tendencies.

(c) History of Discovery and Exploration :

This includes the study of official records, printed and MS. books, pamphlets, correspondence, the reports and maps of early French and British explorers, traders and missionaries, soldiers and surveyors, down to the U.E. Loyalist immigration.

(d) History of Settlement :

(1) Official, as contained in public records, reports of surveyors, records of Crown lands, municipal, court, and registry offices, commissions, public correspondence, etc.

(2) Unofficial, as contained in old pamphlets and newspapers, private journals and letters, monuments and epitaphs, and the recorded or unrecorded reminiscences of pioneers.

The History of Settlement and Population may be worked out along the following lines :

(1) Ethnological and Linguistic.

(2) Religious and Ethical.

(3) Political and Municipal.

(4) Social and Industrial.

(5) Military and Naval.

(6) Folk-lore.

(7) Educational, Literary, and Artistic.

Incidental work :

The climate and physical conformation of a country profoundly affect the type and character of its inhabitants. It would not be outside the scope of the Association's operations if some attention were given to the meteorology, physical geography, geology, and topography of the various portions of the Province, as affecting its historical development.

This will, perhaps, be a convenient classification for practical purposes, although there may be some overlapping.

Reminiscences of Pioneers :

The work of recording the reminiscences of the pioneers, who are fast passing away, is one which cannot safely be postponed. It should be carried on upon systematic lines under competent expert direction, and with the aid of stenographers. Some of the neighboring States, such as Michigan and Wisconsin, have expended considerable sums in this direction. Their published records become increasingly valuable each year, and to future generations will be of priceless value. On account of the danger of further delay,

the work involves considerable expense, and should therefore be assisted generously with public funds.

#### Early History and Topography :

A large part of the early history of the Province is written or printed in the French language and should be translated into English. Much of it is in old departmental records, in fading ink, fast becoming illegible. Many works of great educational value are locked up from the public in rare and costly publications within reach of the few only. The best of these should be made available for the community at large. Amongst many books and much unprinted material relating to the early history of Ontario, which might by translation, transcribing, publication, or reprinting, as far as they relate to Ontario, be placed at the disposal of the student of Ontario history, the following may be mentioned :

- (1) Sagard's Country of the Great Lakes, his History of Canada, and the Relations or Reports of the early Missionaries.
- (2) Galinée and Dollier de Casson's Journal and map of their journey from Montreal to the Sault by way of the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes in 1669-70.
- (3) Extracts from the archives of London, Paris, Ottawa, Albany, etc.
- (4) Writings of other early explorers and travellers, such as Hennepin, La Salle, Joliet, Lafitau, Lahontan, Charlevoix, De Kalm, etc.
- (5) Pouchot's Memoirs is a work of special importance on account of its wealth of historical and topographical detail.
- (6) The valuable records of the Detroit Land Board from the close of the Revolutionary War until the surrender of Michigan by the British in 1796.
- (7) Original court records, assessment rolls, minutes of council, etc., in the various districts and counties.
- (8) Documentary histories of the Essex, Niagara, Long Point, Talbot, Canada Company, McNab, and other settlements, as well as of the various national societies and religious and other communities.

The above outline embraces a considerable volume of work for the Association to undertake—one involving many years of steady and continuous labour, and, doubtless, important classes of historical material have been overlooked in the list I have given. If a very small part of it is accomplished satisfactorily in any one year, we may well feel that we have not laboured in vain.

A very pressing work is that of sending out circulars to newspapers, municipal bodies, professors, teachers, inspectors of schools, Government and municipal officers, and others throughout the Province, urging the careful collection and preservation of historic records, manuscripts, letters, journals, maps, portraits, etc., and also of archæological remains. Another is that of covering the Province with societies in affiliation with the Provincial Association.

The above scheme of work was adopted upon the re-organization of the Pioneer and Historical Association under its new name, "The Ontario Historical Society." It seems to me, that the Provincial Archivist could most effectively co-operate with the Historical Society in carrying it out.

The arrangement, classification, and calendaring of the Provincial archives would naturally be undertaken by him at an early date. The Crown Lands Department contains, perhaps, the most valuable, but the other Departments at the Parliament Buildings have also most important archives from the historical standpoint. At Osgoode Hall and the City Hall will also be found valuable archives extending back to the foundation of the Province. The records of the old Land Boards, beginning before the passage of the

Constitutional Act of 1791, are in the Crown Lands Department. I have examined those of the Detroit Land Board, and know that they are of value to students on both sides the international boundary line. The others are equally valuable to the student of the early settlement of the Province.

The Archivist, in arranging, classifying, and calendaring the archives, will have the benefit of the experience of others, such as the late Dominion Archivist, and the Archivists of the various States of the Union. In a recent number of the *American Historical Review*, I observe references to two papers which may be of service :

"The Archives of Oregon," by Professor F. H. Young, in the *Quarterly* of the Oregon Historical Society for December, 1902.

"The First Annual Report of the Director of Archives and History," in Vol. VI. of the Publications of the Mississippi Historical Society.

The Carnegie Institution, at Washington, has undertaken the publication of a guide to the Archives of the U.S. Government. It is under the direction of Dr. C. H. Van Tyne and W. C. Leland, and will give a general description of the sundry collections of historical and administrative records belonging to the Government.

Information as to methods, etc., should be gathered from the various State and Dominion Archives.

The organization should be upon such a scale, and with such clerical assistance, as would enable the Archivist to do substantial work. His energies will be largely wasted, it may be feared, if devoted entirely to the drudgery of mere clerical work.

The experience of Great Britain in this line of work will be of great service. I understand that provision is there made for the removal, to what we would call the Archives Department, of all departmental papers down to a certain period—all that have a historical character. The reports of the various Historical Records Commissions should be studied for the information they afford as to methods.

"Sagard's Country of the Great Lakes," published in 1632, is not yet translated into English. It is the first publication dealing, it might be said, exclusively with what is now Ontario. It was followed in 1636 with his History of Canada, which has also yet to be put into English. The Ontario Historical Society might well undertake this work, which will, of course, take considerable time, if adequately done. It might be well to take the early French records and publish them in chronological order. The Galinée Narrative and Map made a good beginning in this line of work, as relating to the first exploration of the boundaries of old Ontario. The earlier steps in exploration might now be taken up as opportunity and means will allow.

The Land Board Records could be published at once, as they will not require editing. At least, the editing could follow in future years.

But it seems to me that the Archivist's efforts should be devoted, in the first place, to the arrangement, collection, classification, and calendaring of the Provincial archives ; whilst aiding the Ontario Historical Society, generally, in such ways and to such extent as he finds possible. The vast stores of material in the Government departments should be made available to historical students, and Mr. Fraser, while familiarizing himself with the archives, can render most valuable aid to others who desire to make use of them.

JAMES H. COYNE.



MR. C. C. JAMES, M.A., TORONTO,  
PRESIDENT ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

*To the Honourable the Premier:*

I quite agree that Mr. Fraser should lay out a plan of covering our Province in a series of proper historical sequence. Our Historical Society has laid the foundation for such a series in Galinée. We have on several occasions discussed the propriety of publishing an English translation of Pouchot's Narrative, which would be a connecting link between the first days of white exploration and the beginnings of British rule. It seems to me that Mr. Fraser should begin with 1759-60, and give us a volume or two on the period down to 1783: say one volume 1760-1776, and the second volume 1776-1783. Following these would come the U.E. Loyalist settlements, and the later British immigration movements, in their proper sequence. The material for the volume 1760-1776 can be got mainly in the Archives at Ottawa, and it would be necessary for Mr. Fraser to go over the same, which he could readily do with the help of the Indexes and Abstracts annually printed by the Dominion Archivist, and then have copied those that he desired to print. The Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society have issued several volumes of western records thus copied at Ottawa. There would be, I presume, no objection to the use of the Dominion collection in this way.

While these two or three volumes were being put out, the Archivist could be gradually accumulating material in reference to the U.E.L., and the later township settlements. I have not the least doubt that material would come to him from unexpected sources, if it were known that he had a safe place in which to keep it, and if it were thought that some day it would see light in his annual reports. That is our experience in the Ontario Historical Society. We have more material in sight than we can afford to print.

Another suggestion for a first-class volume: You are, perhaps, aware that I have worked up a paper on the First Legislature of Upper Canada. I am now preparing the Second for the press, and I hope to continue with the Third and Fourth. I beg to suggest that the Archivist issue, in one volume, the Journals of the Legislature for the first eight or twelve years, with all the Statutes passed, and notes on same. He could reprint my personal sketches of the Legislature as an Appendix. The Journals are typewritten, are rapidly fading, and are not readily accessible. There are not more than half a dozen copies of the early Statutes available in all Canada, and most of these are incomplete.

In connection with the office it might be well to have some statutory authority for collecting early municipal records. I have seen township minutes going back to 1790—these are in private hands now, and are likely to be lost by fire or other cause. There should be authority for the Archivist to call these in, and deposit them in his vault.

Mr. Boyle, the Secretary of the Ontario Historical Society, has suggested that Mr. Fraser be appointed Secretary in his place, thereby uniting the two offices. I can see many advantages in that, and have consulted two of my colleagues, Mr. Coyne and Mr. G. R. Pattullo, who heartily concur in the suggestion, provided the work of our Society be not merged in that of the Archivist. If we had room available for storing our books and reports, and if there were a definite assurance that the two lines of work would be kept distinct, I believe the results would be very beneficial to both. Mr. Fraser could, in his movements about the Province, stir up local societies to better work, and the two branches together could accomplish a great deal in the way of saving our local records, stimulating further research, and in the publishing of material that will be not only interesting but stimulating to our national pride.

C. C. JAMES.

## MAJOR J. A. CURRIE, TORONTO.

*To the Honourable the Premier :*

Some time ago I observed that steps had been taken to collect the archives of this Province and matters pertaining to its past history, settlement, etc., and I understand an officer has been appointed to take charge of this work.

The records of the Crown Lands Department are a mine, wherein can be found records of settlement of the land, who took it and settled it, surveys, etc., but none of the Provincial records contain the communal life of the early settlers in the various townships. In order to establish a backbone for this work, and a sound basis to commence upon, I would suggest that steps be taken to procure and have deposited in some suitable place, in custody of the Province, the minute books of the various municipalities dating from 1885 back to the beginning. These minute books are records of the communal life of the townships or municipalities. No doubt, in many cases, they will be meagre, but will furnish the groundwork for further research. Later on these minute books may be lost, and now is the time to take steps to secure them, and should they be required by the municipalities at any time the archives officer appointed could readily give a certified copy of the extract required.

In taking up the archaeology of the Province and its early history, my opinion is that the first work should commence at a modern date and should work back to the beginning, as that is the only way by which errors can be avoided. For instance, by beginning with the history of the Province from the Jesuit Relations, matters that might be accepted as facts in the early work of the Archivist, at a later date might be upset, whereas if the work is sketched and taken up from the present, which is known, then the past can be more readily deciphered.

JOHN ALLISTER CURRIE.

## LIEUT.-COL. E. CRUIKSHANK, NIAGARA FALLS, ONT.

*To the Honourable the Premier :*

For the history of the French régime in Ontario, there is a very considerable quantity of materials in the "Correspondence Générale" and the papers of the Collection de Moreau St. Méry, which have been transcribed from the Paris archives for the Canadian archives. Some of these papers were published in the "Documentary History of New York," Bredhead and O'Callaghan, a good while ago, but most of them have never been printed in any form. There are also a good many important documents as yet unpublished in the "Haldimand Papers," the "Bouquet Papers," and the "Colonial Office Records," bearing on this period. I do not think Mr. Fraser could render any more important service to historical research in this Province than by collecting and publishing these documents, accompanied by an adequate translation when not written in English, and adding extracts in chronological order from the publications of Perrot, La Potherie, La Harpe, Charlevoix, De Kalm, and other contemporary travellers, the Jesuit Relations and the documents published by Margry.

The volume lately published by Mr. R. G. Thwaites, for the Wisconsin Historical Society, on the French régime in Wisconsin, is a favourable example of such a compilation of "Matériaux pour servir."

ERNEST CRUIKSHANK.

JAMES BAIN, D.C.L., TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY.

DEAR MR. FRASER :—I am much pleased to have an opportunity of congratulating you on your appointment as Provincial Archivist, and also the Province of Ontario on having become aware of the necessity for the preservation of its archives and of securing the services of one so well qualified as yourself.

The different centennials have revealed to us the paucity of documents relating to the early history of this Province and their scattered condition. Many of the most important collections are in private hands and exposed to all the vicissitudes attending on such a condition.

An experience of twenty years has convinced me that the confidence imparted by the knowledge that the Government has assumed the task of preserving and calendaring all documents will be fully appreciated and meet with an ample return.

I need hardly remind you of the treasure which exists in the official papers of Ontario, which have not so far been classified or arranged.

If all the Departments could be induced to transfer their papers, prior to 1841, to a central archives office, where the historian would have free and consecutive use of them, it would be a great boon.

And not only the Provincial papers, but in the same repository should be placed the records of towns, villages, counties, etc., prior to the same date. And then, the collections of family papers which are scattered over the length and breadth of the Province. Some, like the Askin papers, have been sold to the Americans, and others have been destroyed by fire, but sufficient remains to furnish the historian with the required details, if they could be consulted.

If, in your Report, you could regularly print a certain number of unpublished letters and papers it would in time create a storehouse of interesting and valuable matter.

Especially, if occasionally this would include narratives of the period prior to settlement in 1783, either in French or English.

I trust that the accommodation granted for use will be ample for all purposes of storing and collecting papers.

But you have no doubt thought these matters all out, and have definite plans for your operations.

I wish you all success—as your success means the enrichment of this our Province.

Yours sincerely,

JAMES BAIN.

REV. JOHN GRAY, D.D., ORILLIA, ONT.

DEAR MR. FRASER :—While congratulating you upon your appointment to the office of Provincial Archivist, as the right man in the right place, I wish to emphasize the very great importance of your office, and the wide field of labour which you are called upon to cover.

The future historians of Ontario should, through your labours, obtain ample materials for preparing reliable and interesting narratives of the progress and patient labours of the settlers, and of their successors, who are still in New Ontario, continuing the mighty conflict.

And you will find multitudes of documents in the Departments of the Provincial and Dominion Governments, as well as in many homes throughout Ontario, which will require to be preserved or copied, and so placed and arranged that there will be easy access to them.

This brief and imperfect statement of what will be required from you in connection with but a part of the duties devolving upon you, cannot but convince the most skeptical

of the necessity for such an office as yours, and at the same time impress upon the intelligent members of the Legislative Assembly the need of their aid and sympathy, and the necessity of granting such a sum from the Provincial Exchequer as will enable you to perform your important duties with efficiency and success.

Hoping that you will be able to make your office what you, yourself, and your friends hope and desire.

I remain,

Most truly yours,

JOHN GRAY.

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PROFESSOR L. E. HORNING, VICTORIA UNIVERSITY.

MY DEAR MR. FRASER :—As you know, I have been engaged on some bibliographical work in connection with our literature, and I assure you it is no easy matter to get information on early books and writers, or on historical matters generally. People throw away or burn old letters, old pamphlets, old account books, old minute books, old maps, etc., to make way for new books, papers, etc., which have not the value of some or of most of these old things. So, I hope you will be able to organize your work both in your own quarters as to fying, indexing, etc., and also in regard to collecting, that you may be able to lay your hands on everything which ought to go to you.

To make your collections of use to investigators, it will be necessary to publish lists of accessions quite frequently, perhaps every quarter, and to have also a good index of these made from time to time and kept up to date. Of course, of everything printed by the different governmental departments you will have such a list, but there ought to be a copy, or even two, of all publications in Ontario put into your charge.

With regard to your collections, you might make use of fraternal societies, "Old Boys' Associations," and "Teachers' Associations." From these latter a man or woman from each township could be interested and a systematic search made for all valuable material. Indeed, advantage might be taken of Teachers' Conventions to give instruction on the way to make collections. Then, too, there are a few Historical Societies here and there, which might be increased in number and put to work.

I feel very strongly the necessity of setting to work *at once* to rescue the fast perishing sources of our history ; and *everything* is of use.

I wish you every success in the work to which you have been appointed. It will be a labour of love, I am sure, and doubtless often of disappointment; but there is no more important work to be done, as a contribution to our history in all lines of development, and I do hope to see you succeed and succeed abundantly.

Yours very sincerely,

L. E. HORNING.

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PROFESSOR J. SQUAIR, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

DEAR MR. FRASER :—The appointment of an Archivist for Ontario is something for which everyone interested in the history of our country will feel grateful. A good deal of historical material has been lost, but enough still remains scattered here and there over the Province which ought to be collected and added to the Departmental Archives. It is to be hoped that you will be able to stir up local historical societies and Old Boys' organizations to take a greater interest in all that pertains to our history. Doubtless when these societies come to know your facilities for preserving and publishing material their activity will be quickened.

Wishing you much success in your new office,

I remain, yours very truly,

J. SQUAIR.

## ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH.

BY DAVID REID KEYS, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, TORONTO.

Edward A. Freeman, the historian of the Norman Conquest, and the most stimulating of recent Oxford Professors of History, taught with characteristic insistence that the greatest discovery of that age of discoveries, the nineteenth century, was the discovery of the historical method. Not only has this method revolutionized the study of those sciences which were formerly called historical, such as law, philosophy, literature, and theology, but the application of the method to the so-called natural sciences has produced the most remarkable development and given to the study of nature a solidarity which it never had before. In short, the whole Darwinian fabric of Evolution is based on the application of the historical method to the investigation of the facts of Biology. So intimately is the idea of evolution connected with the name of Darwin and the subject of natural science, that it will probably be a surprise to many cultured readers to learn that this idea of studying the development of the modern from the archaic was really an application from the comparative method of modern philology, as taught by the early German masters of that science, of whom the leader was Jacob Grimm.

Let us trace the history of this historical method. Jacob Grimm got it from the great German jurist, Von Savigny, who was Grimm's Law Professor at the little University of Marburg, now famed as the home of Victor, the great German phonetician. Von Savigny had derived the impulse to this historical method of study, which he applied to the subject of Roman Law, from his own old "Law Professor at the University of Göttingen," to quote from the *Anti-Jacobin*. Hugo, in turn, got his inspiration from the famous chapter on the Roman Law (44) in Gibbon's *Decline and Fall*. When Mr. Boffin was listening to Mr. Wegg he had no idea that the germ of the great scientific growth which produced the "Origin of Species," six years before Dickens wrote "Our Mutual Friend," was a chapter in Gibbon's book. "The world," says Emerson, "globes itself in a drop of dew." It is both interesting and comforting to find that after all not only did our English Darwin make the greatest application of the method, but our English Gibbon was its first source nearly a century before.

But, as in too many other cases, the Germans, with their greater intellectual activity, due to the existence, for centuries, of a score of universities devoted to the higher learning, were able to develop the germ in many directions long before Darwin wrote his "Origin of Species." In the case of Jacob Grimm, in particular, the importance of the study of the early forms of law, of language, of literature, of institutions, and of religion was so apparent that he found nothing too old or too trivial to be overlooked in his epoch-making investigations into the early life of the Germans. He was scoffed at for his devotion to the unimportant. He might have answered "Genius is the power of making use of trifles." His work, based on his laborious study of every little scrap of antique learning or antiquated custom, marked an era. It was the real German renaissance—the rebirth of the old Teuton feeling which had been chained in the bonds of an iron frost now loosened by the mellowing influence of this enthusiasm for the things of old. In 1806, Arnim and Brentano, prompted by Schlegel's regret that Germany had nothing like England's Percy Ballads, collected and published that great mine of literary material known as "Des Knaben Wunderhorn," "The Boy's Magic Horn." "Without it," says Paul, "German lyric poetry of the nineteenth century would have been impossible." So much for historic research in its influence upon literature.

Its influence upon life was yet greater. This research inspiring the poets with intense love of fatherland, they in turn, aided by the powerful influence which the German professors have always exerted upon their ardent and enthusiastic students, brought about, first, the war of liberation, and then the intense desire for a united Fatherland, which our own generation

has grown familiar with as an accomplished fact, but which forty years ago looked like a young man's vision that no old man dreamed of seeing.

While these momentous results were being brought about during the course of the last century, the ardor for historical study had led to an almost incredible activity in investigation and research. Every province in Germany, to say nothing of the various kingdoms, Grand-duchies, Dukedoms, principalities and so forth, into which the old confederation was divided—each and all have their historical societies, issuing volume after volume of old records from the past, such as those which the Archivist of Ontario will from henceforth endeavor to procure. Here, in Toronto, one may read in the Canadian Institute, the historical memoirs of the *Göerres Gesellschaft*, named after the Heidelberg professor mentioned, of the historical society for the Provinces of Posen, of Lower Saxony, of the Steiermark (Styria), an Austrian frontier province not much larger than Lake Ontario. In the University Library there are nearly fifty publications, added to which was a recent University "Study on the Anglo-Saxon Scop," or minstrel, of which fully half are German, some linguistic, others literary, others historical, but all interested in a subject of this antiquarian nature.

The mere list of these publications would give an idea of the extent to which historical research is now being pushed in all civilized countries. Germany, the great intellectual workshop of the world, leads the van. But France spends many thousands of francs on this object, though the great collections of early days, those of Guizot and Buchon and Petitot, the last in 131 volumes, might seem to give enough material. The amount of information published in connection with the French Revolution is enough of itself to daunt the stoutest heart of any but a German student. In Italy, the home of Academies, this work is being pursued with even greater vigour. Milton and Goldsmith were attracted by these Italian academies in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Every large city has its own academy, and supports it with a civic pride to which we have, unfortunately, no parallel. Let the reader pay a visit to the Canadian Institute and be convinced of the wealth of material sent out by Italy. The *Archivio Giotologico*, formerly edited by Ascoli, the greatest of Italian scholars, now in charge of Salvioni, his most distinguished pupil, is devoted especially to the history of the language and literature, and ranks among the best of such journals in the world. Its twenty volumes are in the University Library.

Nor are the smaller and less opulent nations behindhand in this work. Effete Spain has its Royal Academy of History publishing a great volume every year; immature Brazil has its historical annual; both Russia and Japan are actively carrying on this historical rivalry. In the northern nations of Europe, the impulse derived from Germany has grown with time, so that now there is no less devotion to the study of antiquity in Sweden and Norway than in Germany itself.

But while all these countries are liberal in their support of the work of an archivist, it is on this continent and by individual States of the Union that the most munificent treatment has been accorded to the historical student. New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota are all showing an admirable spirit of liberality in looking after the collection and publication of the records of their past. The publications of the Wisconsin State Historical Society are a credit to the State as well as to their learned editor.

That many of these publications deal rather with Canadian history than with that of Wisconsin does not lessen our appreciation of this work, but should stir in us an ambition to do something for ourselves and at once set about collecting those materials which are still available. Every citizen of Ontario, with a due sense of patriotic pride in the past history of the Province, must feel relieved to think that Ontario is taking her place officially in the list of those States and Provinces which recognise the importance of collecting and preserving the materials for historical research.

### **Suggestions as to Compiling the History of a Township.**

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- (1) A map of the Township ought to be furnished.
- (2) Introductory : Origin of the Township—changes in its boundaries—brief reference to features of its industries—anything special relating to its urban communities, etc.
- (3) Chapter on physical features—natural history ; fauna, flora, geology, etc.
- (4) History of people and places, illustrated if possible by pictures of noted residents, dwelling houses, schools, churches ; of beautiful landscape and bits of natural scenery.
- (5) A complete list of place names with their derivation.

**SIR FRANCIS PALGRAVE :**

“The history of a county or of a township, if properly investigated, disinters the most important facts with regard to the general state and condition of society, giving facts instead of theories, figures instead of surmises.”

## SECTION OF MAP OF CLARKE TOWNSHIP.

FROM A MAP OF THE COUNTY OF DURHAM MADE IN 1861



EXTRACT FROM PROCLAMATION OF 1792, FORMING THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

"That the thirteenth of the said counties be hereafter called by the name of the County of Durham, which County is to be bounded on the east by the westernmost line of the County of Northumberland, on the south by Lake Ontario, until it meets the westernmost point of Long Beach, thence by a line running north 16 degrees west, until it intersects the southern boundary of a tract of land belonging to the Mississauga Indians, thence along the said tract, parallel to Lake Ontario, until it meets the north-westernmost boundary of the County of Northumberland."

NOTES : The County of Durham (a) is divided into six townships, viz. : Hope (b), Cavan (c), Clarke (d), Manvers (e), Darlington (f), Cartwright (g).

The Township of Clarke was surveyed in 1797 by A. McDonell, Deputy Surveyor-General. (a) Named after the County of Durham, England. (b) After Lieutenant-Governor Henry Hope, Administrator for Governor Carleton during absence. (c) After the County of Cavan, Ireland. (d) After Major-General Alured Clarke, Lieutenant-Governor of Canada. (e) After Charles Pierrepont, Earl Manvers. (f) After Darlington, England. (g) In honour of Hon. Richard Cartwright, a native of Albany, N. Y., who settled at Kingston; was grandfather of Hon. Sir Richard J. Cartwright Minister of Trade and Commerce for Canada.

## DURHAM COUNTY : GEOLOGICAL FEATURES.\*

Except for a few low outcrops of ancient shale and limestone belonging to Cambrosilurian times in the southern part, Durham County is covered with drift deposits belonging to the very latest period of the world's history, the Pleistocene. At the close of the Ice Age, the edge of the great glacial sheet, which had covered all eastern Canada, halted in the front townships of Durham and piled up a great range of morainic hills, partly of boulder clay, often very stony, and partly kame-like with sand and gravel. These rough irregular hills crossing the county from east to west, and sending a projection as far south as Newtonville, form its most striking geographic feature.

When the ice had withdrawn farther but still filled the valley of the St. Lawrence at the Thousand Islands, the basin now occupied by Lake Ontario was, of course, filled with water from Niagara River, and a larger and deeper lake than the present one, Lake Iroquois, as it has been named, covered the southern edge of the county, cutting its shore in the boulder clay hills of the old moraine and piling up beaches and gravel bars across the mouths of bays. The old beach is easily followed by its shore cliffs and gravel ridges to the north of Bowmanville and Newcastle, Orono resting on a gravel bar; but a great promontory extends some miles to the southward near Newtonville, which is at the foot of the old cliff. In this part of the county, the Kingston Road runs on Iroquois gravel deposits. North of Port Hope, the shore recedes in a deep bay with a prominent island a mile or two off shore. Where the Midland Railway climbs the hill at Quay's gravel pit, the shore deposits and cliff are very well displayed.

Perhaps the most interesting feature of this old beach is the fact that it is no longer horizontal but tilts up toward the north-east at the rate of about three feet to a mile. At Quay's gravel pit its elevation above Lake Ontario is 312 feet; near Whitby, in the next county to the west, it is only 261 feet above it.

When the ice dam which blocked the north-west end of Lake Iroquois thawed away, the lake was drained, and for a time the basin may have been at the level of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, though the water remained fresh. Finally, the continued elevation toward the north-east raised the outlet and enclosed the present Lake Ontario, bringing us down to recent conditions. - This may have taken place from 2,500 to 17,000 years ago, and the commencement of Lake Iroquois must probably be placed twice as far back, the two beaches of old Lake Iroquois and of the present Lake Ontario requiring for their formation most of the time since Niagara Falls began to cut its canyon back from Queenston Heights.

A. P. COLEMAN.

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\* See sketch map on opposite page.

IROQUOIS BEACH

IN

DURHAM COUNTY

MILLBROOK.

HAMPTON

ORONO

BOWMANVILLE

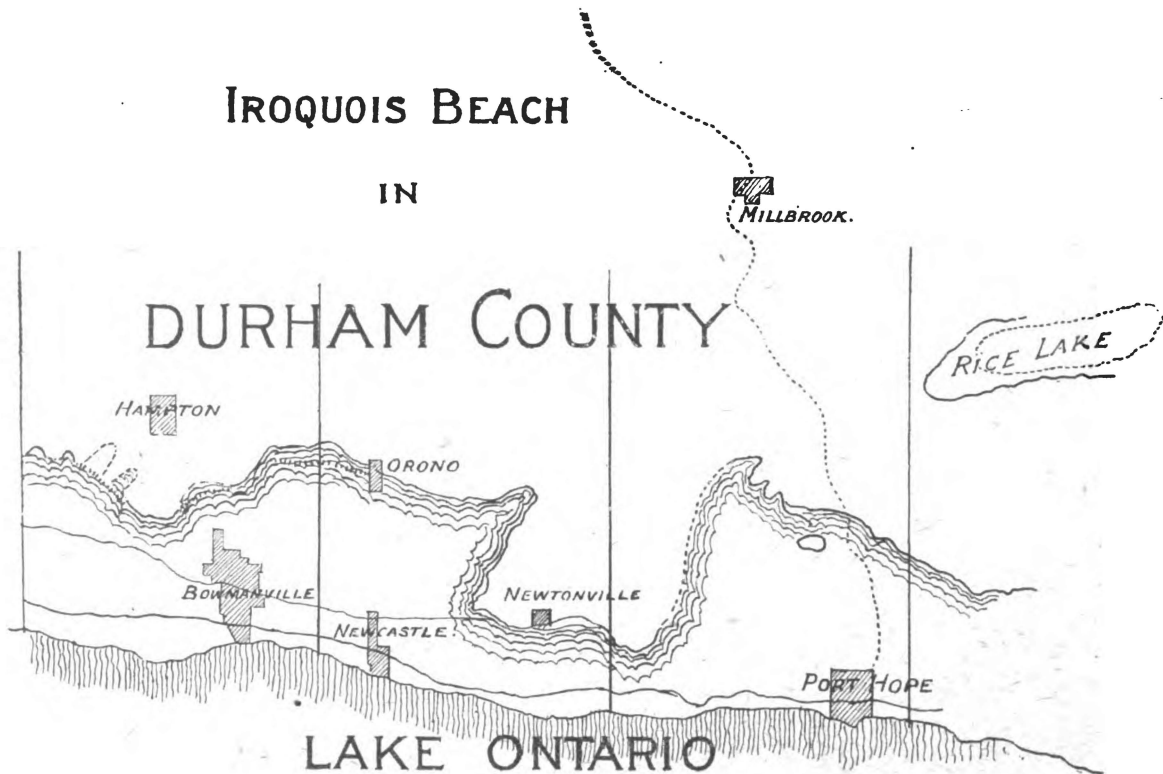
NEWTONVILLE

NEWCASTLE

PORT HOPE

RICE LAKE

LAKE ONTARIO



## THE SETTLEMENT OF DURHAM COUNTY.\*

I realize, in undertaking to speak before Durham Old Boys about the connections of my family with Durham County, that I am probably addressing gentlemen who are far better acquainted with the facts of history connected with this county than I am. But, be this as it may, I shall take the liberty to discuss the settlement of my direct ancestors in Durham County, or, more definitely speaking, in Darlington township, as being the first to settle in that locality.

My direct ancestor, Roger Conant, who ultimately was the first settler in Durham County, lived in Massachusetts at the outbreak of the American Revolution. He, unlike his two brothers, refused to join the patriot army. He had been educated for the law, and had attended Yale University, and owned several thousand acres of land in Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Money was a scarce commodity, and for his large property Roger Conant could only get together \$5,000. This he obtained in gold, and in 1777 he set out from the vicinity of Boston with his family. Their conveyance was a covered wagon drawn by two horses, and following was an ox-team drawing a cart, laden with household goods. His first stop was at Hudson River, where he seems to have remained for some time. But Governor Simcoe's offer of grants of land in Upper Canada to those who would come and occupy them hurried Roger Conant's journey. Arriving at the mouth of the Niagara River and hiring a flat scow to convey himself and his family across, he landed at Newark, then the capital of Upper Canada. There he met Governor Simcoe, who tried to persuade him to go up Yonge St. to lands on Lake Simcoe. But he did not wish to leave the shores of Lake Ontario, so he refused. Following the lake shore, they at last reached the site of York, then a cluster of Indian wigwams. But he did not stop here, and continued his journey still farther east on the shore of the Lake.

It was late autumn and provision must be made for man and beast. October was upon them and winter near. They ultimately reached a spot which seemed to suit their exact convenience, and this, because it provided food both for the cattle and horses and for the settlers themselves. It was the mouth of a little creek, known as Barber's Creek, which flows into Lake Ontario about two miles east of the western county line of Durham County, and 5 miles west of Bowmanville harbour. This creek, I think, does not empty into Lake Ontario at the same place now as it did when Roger Conant settled there. It has somewhat deviated from its old course, but there still can be traced the place where it emptied into Lake Ontario when Roger Conant settled in that locality. It was a meadow, and dense marsh grass grew there, which the early settler was quick to observe would provide food for his beasts during the coming winter. And, again, this same little stream was to provide food for himself and his family also. Salmon ascended the creek in November in great numbers, and this would serve as their winter's food. Here they finally located and set about building a log cabin, the foundation of which still remains close by the waters of Lake Ontario. They brought their distaff, and were, to a certain extent, independent of the whole world for their existence. Hemp seed too they brought with them, and only last summer while visiting the spot I found growing there several stalks of the long hemp which originally they grew there.

It was truly a grand existence. The virgin forest around them still stood untouched by the hand of the red man, who, up to this time, had contented himself with hunting the beasts of the forest or catching the fish in the streams. The region about them was a

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\* Read before the Durham Old Boys' Association.

perfect result of the creation of God, as indeed is the whole of Durham County at the present time. It was a new world, a world just to be opened to the influence of civilized man.

The remainder of the fall they spent in building their cabin and in preparing for the severe Canadian winter which they knew was inevitable. Roger Conant was a literary man, having graduated from Yale in 1765, and he brought with him some books, which, no doubt, were company for him during the long winter months. Governor Simcoe had told Roger Conant, when he saw him at Newark, that when he had fixed on a location, he was to blaze the limits of the farm on the lake shore he would like to have, and that he, the Governor, would see that he got his patents for the area so blazed. So, after the log cabin had been completed, he, in accordance with the Governor's offer, began to blaze out the land which he wished to own. But Roger Conant was content with comparatively little, and only blazed out some 800 acres altogether. It is to be regretted by myself, and indeed by all of his direct descendants, that he did not blaze out at least a township. The lots so blazed were, precisely speaking, lots 28, 29, 30, and 31 in broken front, Darlington township, Durham County. The reason he did not blaze more is undoubtedly because blazing involved considerable labour, since a straight line must be made out from blaze to blaze, and again, the early settler did not have any thought of any future value of the land thus acquired. He did not, consequently, bother blazing more than 800 acres. The blazing being completed, the settlers set about clearing away the forest, and the whole winter was spent in logging. In the following autumn they reaped the bounteous harvest which the virgin soil in its abundant fertility yielded.

But Roger Conant was not content to live like this. He had brought considerable money with him from New England, and this he proposed to use to some advantage. Furs and furs only would bring money, so with the capital which he possessed, he made his way to Montreal by canoe, and there, about 1799, had Durham boats built. They were broad-beamed open flat boats, and strongly built for rowing or towing. These he filled with blankets, knives, ammunition and the like, to trade with the Indians for furs. With these boats he returned to Durham County and his home. He went north with his goods to trade with the Indians, to the shores of Lake Scugog in Durham County. Trading with the Indians generally began in the early morning, and the Indians were informed of the trader's presence by the firing of three guns at sundown in quick succession. Upon this signal the Indians would hasten to the trader to exchange their furs. The dealing was necessarily very slow, as an Indian will trade only one skin at a time, and the bargain concerning that skin must be fully completed before he will enter upon another deal. But having finally disposed of all his goods, Roger Conant would return to the lake shore to get another supply for trading purposes.

It was a hard life, but Roger Conant did not suffer, being a man of very remarkable physique. They generally arrived at the trading grounds in the evening, and it was necessary to wait till morning before commencing operations. Therefore, having cut some boughs for a bed, they would soon be covered with their robes and, before long, sound asleep. It was more often the case than not that they awoke in the morning to find five or six inches of snow covering them, and they then no longer wondered why they slept so warm.

Roger Conant amassed considerable wealth in this way, both from his fur trading and from his sale of potash, which was the only other means of making money at that time. Potash then brought some \$140 per barrel, and this, with the fur trading, helped to make wealth for my ancestors and others.

Maple sugar making, too, although it did not enrich the settler any, added greatly to his home comforts. The sugar in the dense woods of that time was easily obtainable, both on

account of the great number of maples standing then, and also on account of the density of the woods.

But when the desire for fur trading had been satisfied, Roger Conant once more turned to his domestic duties. A small portion of the blazed area had already been cleared, but it was necessary to clear more. That which they grew upon this area was the main part of their food. There was no mill nearer than Kingston, and as taking grain this distance to be ground would involve too much time and labour, the settler sought to discover an easier method of having his wheat ground into flour. And now the ingenuity of a settler in need was brought to use. With a burnt out stump as a mortar, and a billet of wood as a pestle, he pounded or crushed the wheat, thus producing a kind of flour. But crude as it was, it served the purpose well, and was satisfying to the wants of the early settler. Their distaff served to provide them with clothing, and altogether they lived a fairly happy and contented life. Their food was crude and simple yet wholesome. The salmon of the creek which flowed past their door and the victims of their trusty guns, served as their chief diet, together with a kind of bread that was produced from wheat which they themselves ground up. Game there was and plenty of it. There were a great many bear about the vicinity, and the settlers often encountered them while at work. The deer also, at that time, came to the shore of Lake Ontario to water, and no doubt many of them fell a victim to the settler's rifle. Wolves were very numerous, but Conant did not suffer from them very much, since his abode was surrounded on two sides of a triangle by the lake and by the creek and he could keep a large fire burning at the other side if they became at all threatening. The Hudson's Bay boats could occasionally be seen going up or down the lake, and this helped to wear away the monotony of their secluded life.

Of the sons of Roger Conant it may be said that, although capable men, they were at a grievous disadvantage because of their lack of education. Education could not be obtained in Old Upper or Lower Canada as easily at that time as at the present time. There were no schools there in fact, and had there been any, there would have been no pupils. Consequently, we find Conant's sons possessing grand physical health, but with little education. They felled the forest, and obtained from the soil the crops that in its virgin state it is always ready to yield.

Roger Conant died a very large real estate owner. This part of his possessions is duly scheduled. But of his hoard of gold no mention is made. It is strongly believed by many of his descendants that he buried it, but why he did so is a mystery. On the farm at Darlington on which he resided, a few years before his death he took a large family iron bake-kettle, and placing his gold in it, he buried it. So there is a treasure yet to be discovered by some fortunate person beneath the depth of Durham County that is disturbed by the plough.

But we have been discussing events that took place before any real settlement began in Darlington, or more generally speaking, in Durham County. The Burks and the Trulls settled in Darlington soon after the Conants, and in about the same locality. These were the earliest pioneers who settled down in the then impenetrable forest. They built log shanties with bark roofs, plastered on the inside with mud, and their only neighbors, or rather occasional callers, were the Indians. They were never very troublesome, but caused considerable anxiety, being armed and equipped. But open hostilities were as a general thing avoided. They all took up land, and even at the present time there are Burks living in Darlington, who own the very lands that were originally reclaimed by their ancestors. These families are among the best and most prominent in Durham County.

Of the land which was originally possessed by Roger Conant, there is none, at the present day, owned by any of the Conants. There were four sons and two daughters in

the family, and Thomas Conant, my great-grandfather, was foully massacred in 1838 during the Canadian Revolution by a despatch bearer. This accounts for the fact that we, his direct descendants, do not possess any of the original property. However, we do possess at Port Oshawa, four miles west, some of the property which was owned and occupied by David Annis, who was a brother-in-law of Roger Conant, and who came from Massachusetts with him.

The first actual settlement of Darlington took place in 1794, and from this date onward the number of settlers steadily increased. The grandeur of this part of the country no doubt attracted many, and a census taken in 1829 revealed the fact that there were 118 people living in Darlington. A post-office was established in Darlington about the same year, and we already had the nucleus of a fine township.

Bowmanville, named after a man by the name of Bowman, a Montreal merchant, who at Bowmanville owned a large property, including the mill privilege, sprang into existence soon after this. It was incorporated as a village in 1853, and as a town in 1858. Now we have in Bowmanville one of the finest towns of its size in Ontario, possessing a fine harbour and many substantial residences and superb schools.

But to drive through Durham County at the present time and see the comfortable dwellings of the prosperous farmers and the well-cultivated land stretched out before us, we are apt to forget that our ancestors alone are worthy of credit for this. They found Durham County a dense and impenetrable forest and covered with heavy timber, but they left it a county which is one of the finest in Ontario, both as to the fertility of its soil, and also as to the large number of its inhabitants who are direct descendants of those who, through their diligent labour, opened up for us this vast and fair domain.

GORDON D. CONANT.

## THE SETTLING OF THE RENWICKS IN CLARKE.\*



HERBERT RENWICK.  
[A PIONEER SETTLER.]

The Renwicks, of Clarke, came to Canada in 1833. Herbert Renwick, of Beattock, the head of the family, had been a substantial yeoman of Covenanting stock and Covenanting character, dwelling near Moffat, Dumfriesshire. The social discontent of the period it was that seems to have moved him to leave his old home; and he decided to go to Canada because there, in a land where the settler might, he was told, obtain fertile acres for the asking, he expected to be able to provide for his growing family better than was possible in Scotland. So in the spring of seventy years ago he and his good wife, Sara Wightman, disposed of all their heavy furniture, packed their carpets, bedding, and clothing, their china and silver, their fire-irons and fender, the works of the family clock,—uncased and stowed like a dead thing—candlesticks, cooking utensils, saddles, and spinning-

wheel; gathered about them their eight children and the two dogs; and set off to Annan, whence they crossed Solway Firth in a coal sloop to Maryport and took passage on the two-masted brig "Argus" of Newfoundland for Quebec. After an uneventful voyage of sixty-five days, the "Argus" reached Grosse Isle, and her arrival was signalled by tossing up red and white balls, doubtless in accordance with a code. The health officers at Grosse Isle seem to have been rather uncivil, and the proximity of a party of light-fingered Irish immigrants in quarantine caused the passengers of the "Argus" further inconvenience. Indeed, so averse were our proud Scots folk to occupying a portion of the same poor quarters as their fellows from the Emerald Isle, that they preferred to camp on the rocks with their outspread washing for two whole nights. After a detention of some sixty hours they proceeded to Quebec and landed there, going later to Montreal. Thence a number of the steerage passengers departed for Bytown, now Ottawa, there to embark on slow-moving Durham boats that would convey them to Lake Ontario by way of the Rideau Canal. Possibly the Renwicks' baggage accompanied them. However, as William, the eldest boy of the family, though as yet not seventeen, was not well at the time, his father decided to proceed westward, for on taking that direction he was determined by the more pleasant and expeditious means of stage and steamer up the valley of the St. Lawrence.

The party at last brought up at Cobourg; the house where they lodged at Hull's Corners, north of the town, yet stands in good repair. Cobourg in those days must have possessed for the remoter settlers something of the glamour of a rural metropolis. Not only was it on the stage line from Montreal to York, and in regular communication with

\* Read before the West Durham Old Boys' Association.



the latter place by steamboat, but it had schools and churches and was the seat of a new Wesleyan College, founded in 1830.

Leaving their family safely ensconced at Hull's Corners, Herbert Renwick and his son William set out on foot to prospect in the country to the westward, where unoccupied farms could probably be had nearer to the lake front than in other parts, Clarke having been settled less early, it is said, than neighboring townships, owing to the more broken character of its surface. At some spot between Port Hope and Newtonville the pedestrians fell in with two clergymen sitting on a log. These gentlemen proved to be Reverend Messrs. Thornton and Proudfoot, United Presbyterian missionaries, then on their way to "congregate" Port Hope, that is, to form a congregation there. By them our two wayfarers were directed to one who usually had a number of farms for sale, Mr. William McIntosh, father of Dr. McIntosh, now of Newcastle. The immigrants seem to have been disillusioned by this time regarding the current methods of granting public lands to settlers. They found that there was an intermediary, the Canada Company, which shared with the labourer the generosity of nature and the Crown. However, "Beattock," as his friends used to call him, from the name of his Scottish farm, was not deterred from settling in Clarke because land there had to be bought, for he had with him ready money. The possession of coin of the realm was a considerable advantage in those days, when most people paid in kind, and "Beattock" did not fail to recognize the fact. They say that he so regularly inquired, when bargaining for a purchase, what the lowest price was for cash, that he won for himself the nickname of "Cash" Renwick. That, however, is by the way. To return to the travellers, they obeyed the directions of their new-found friends, and at length, after passing through Newtonville and Crandell's Corners, the embryonic Newcastle, they arrived at McIntosh's store and house just beyond the town line in Darlington, next to a farm afterwards owned by the then seven-year-old Walter Renwick. Mr. McIntosh, accompanied by Mr. R. Fairbairn, father of the present postmaster of Bowmanville, and others drove the home-seekers out in a waggon to see a farm in the fourth concession of Clarke. On the way, the party passed through the Butterfield settlement on the third line near the crossroads now known as Tricky's Corners. The land hereabout seems to have been owned at one time by a man named Butterfield. It had been acquired the previous spring by a little colony of English Methodists that included the Bellwoods, Middletons, Blackburns, and Hills. Mr. Bellwood invited all in to have a cup of tea, and it is significant of the lonesomeness that oppressed the heart of the leader of our little Dumfriesshire band that this simple act of hospitality roused in him a feeling of unfading gratitude. In after years, the proximity of this little English community meant much to him and to his whole family. For the property of one hundred acres in extent that Renwick was then going out to inspect proved so satisfactory that it was purchased on the sixth of September, from one Eleazar Baldwin, yeoman, of Clarke, for three hundred pounds, Upper Canada currency. Baldwin had received the deed of it from the Canada Company only nine days before, in consideration of the sum of fifty-six pounds, five shillings. The improvements on the place had, doubtless, been made by him already.

The two prospectors, after having thus selected their farm, returned to bring up the rest of the family. In Port Hope, they hired one team of horses and bought another—the first, I have heard it said, ever owned in Clarke—and all mounted waggons to go to the new home. The road was dry and good, but to the older pilgrims it must have been a gloomy way. Virgin forest clothed both sides of the track, being broken only here and there by the five, ten, or twenty-acre clearing about the log house and outbuildings of some earlier immigrant. There was no Orono in those days and no road to it. At the top of the hill, just north of where Mr. Peter Stalker's house now stands, the blazed trail swerved to the north-west,

crossed the creek below by the rudest of log bridges, climbed out of the little valley of the stream, and ended with the family's journey. The farm to which they had come, and to which was given the name of "Hopetown" in remembrance of the benevolent Earl, who owned the distant Beattock, consisted of one hundred acres, as stated above, and lay at the corner of the fourth line and the first side-road west of the present highway from Newcastle to Orono. The clearing comprised two or three good-sized fields and on it were a log cabin and a frame barn. The former consisted of one room with an overhead loft and a "lean-to." The fire-place was of stone, but there was a great hole in the back wall. The chimney was made of clay and sticks. Before winter the fire-place was repaired and three more rooms were built. From Baldwin, besides cows, sheep, and pigs, oxen had been purchased. With—and against—these the older boys strove, and learned to plough the soil and to pull the stumps. The trees with which they had to contend were maple, beech, ironwood, and basswood. A very few pines grew in the neighborhood, and there were also in the swamps, I surmise, some cedars. The settlers lived, however, in a hard-wood bush. And dense it was. On the farm to the east dwelt a family named Perkins, but it was months before the Renwicks were aware of their presence. Mrs. Renwick afterwards said the first smoke she perceived rising from that near-by chimney was the pleasantest sight she ever saw. But she and her older daughters can have had little time for repining. For the country housewife's duties in those days included not merely sweeping and dusting and cooking, and darning and mending, but baking, carding, spinning, knitting, weaving, tailoring, and the making of not butter only, but cheese and soap and candles and a variety of things more. Where the family got its footwear at this time I do not know. Later, it was the custom to have a cobbler call and make boots for the whole household before he departed again. Out-of-doors, the men, except when tilling the soil and tending the stock, were laying the giants of the forest low, burning their carcasses, and, in season, boiling their blood to sugar.

The little ones of the family and their dogs, meanwhile, enjoyed their new experiences intensely. A favorite resort for wee Walter and Elizabeth was Sabine's sawmill, off to the south of their home on the creek above mentioned. Mr. Sabine was a man of kindly disposition, and spent many a spare hour making wooden dolls for his visitors.

But before long the children found themselves under the necessity of spending a large part of each day in school. To reach the little log school-house, they had to walk two miles or so through the bush to what later became Tricky's Corners. On the south-eastern corner it was that Mr. Thompson, a Yorkshire friend of the Bellwoods, with whom he lived and at whose home he died, held sway over some twenty or thirty scholars. The dominie impressed himself upon my grand-aunt Elizabeth as a man of very superior character. The incapacity of growing age compelled him to retire from his school in 1845 or a little later.

Sunday-school was conducted in the school-house weekly by the Blackburns. At this earliest period—1833—there was no church—no Presbyterian church at any rate—for the Renwicks to attend. Soon, however, fortnightly services were begun by the Rev. John Cassie,\* of Port Hope, in Newtonville. In 1837, the congregation of Newtonville obtained a pastor of its own in the person of Rev. George Lawrence, the first Presbyterian minister in that district, if not in the whole country, to receive a regular call from the people of the community. Nevertheless, according to the rules of the Church, Mr. Lawrence had first to spend a probationary year with his backwoods parishioners as a missionary. For this twelvemonth he lived with Herbert Renwick, whose house was a kind of lay-manse always. Some time between 1838 and 1841 a second congregation was established, and

\* Rev. Dr. Gregg, in his History of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, refers to Mr. Cassie thus: Mr. Cassie was a native of Peterhead, Aberdeenshire. He was ordained a Missionary to Canada in 1834, and was inducted to the charge at Port Hope in 1835. He preached once a fortnight in the Township of Clarke.

to this body Mr. Lawrence ministered for many years. His church was erected on the fifth line, near Mount Tom, on property belonging to Mr. Thomas Waddell. The old graveyard still exists, though unused. Before their church buildings were erected, both congregations mentioned met in convenient barns. Mr. Lawrence, it may be mentioned, was a farmer as well as a pastor, and worked the property now occupied by Mr. James Hunter, of the fifth concession.

But to return to the Renwick family—on the thirtieth of September, 1835, Mr. Renwick acquired the Perkins farm next him on payment of two hundred and fifty pounds. Perkins himself had not held the title of this farm for more than a few days, though he had lived on the place longer. The former owner was George Ball, Esq., of Niagara, who disposed of his property to Perkins for a fifth of what the latter received for it. On this new farm, which was named "Rosebank," was constructed the house that yet stands at Renwick's Corners, on the road to Orono.

Soon after the removal thither came a time of anxiety, the period of Mackenzie's uprising. William Renwick, as member of a Port Hope squadron of cavalry, was called out for service; and as every seventh man capable of bearing arms was being drafted, it appeared as if the next son, John, might have to turn out too. He and six others, however, had their names withdrawn from the ballot by hiring a man to go instead of whichever of them the lot might have fallen upon.

Every man in those days, I believe, had to join the militia, and on one day each summer all the men of Clarke would muster for drill under Captain Allen Wilmott. Nobody seems to have known much about soldiering, however, and "training day" was an occasion rather of merry-making than of service.

Thus the years moved on, bringing increasing prosperity with advancing age. In 1841, William Renwick was married to Catherine Gairdner, a Lanarkshire lass, and moved into a new house—the one still standing—at "Hopetown." This house was not finished, however, at the time of the nuptials, and the bridal pair spent their honeymoon in a neat log cottage often used by other young couples for a like purpose. This cottage was built nearer Orono than the "Rosebank" house, probably by Mr. Ed. Billings, for his son.

The year of the marriage of the youngest member of the family, Elizabeth, to the late Edmund MacNachtan, of Newcastle and Cobourg, was signalized by the introduction of a new element of pleasure into the lives of the men of the neighbourhood. Where are Scotsmen, water, and winter, there is curling. In 1850 Mr. John Dickson, grandfather of Mr. W. B. McMurrich, of Toronto, produced a pair of stones. On the model of these hardwood blocks were turned, and the brooms were soon swinging merrily on Sabine's pond. Later, curling was also enjoyed higher up the stream across the Orono, Newcastle road on Tricky's pond, evidences of the existence of which may still be seen beside the spot where that famous scion of Vulcan is fabled with hammer and lathe to have made everything under the sun.

Even after this pond was let away and the smith had kindled his fire by the next road south, bonspiels were still held down at Bond Head.

But such were the sports of the younger generation, whose story I do not mean here to record. The aged Herbert Renwick found a less arduous, if equally exciting, pleasure in long-winded and strenuous religious discussions in-doors with "Preacher" Hill, of the third. He and his wife finally passed away ripe in years.

A. EDWIN HAMILTON.

## A NONOGENARIAN SETTLER.



DUNCAN MACCONNACHIE.

Lot No. 30, Con. 5. Settled in 1836, still living.

A fine example of the successful settler, and of longevity also, is Mr. Duncan Maconnachie, the esteemed veteran of Bowmanville. As the name implies, Mr. Maconnachie is of Highland Scottish descent, and ninety-two years ago he was born in the parish of Killean, Cantyre, Argyllshire, Scotland. His father, a native of the same parish, was Mr. Peter Maconnachie, and his mother's name was Mary MacNiven. The name is a variant of MacDhonnachaidh, or Robertson, and is one of the most ancient in the Scottish catalogue. The Argyllshire Maconnachies appreciated their ancient lineage, and the family reputation was that they did their utmost to sustain its best traditions. Peter Maconnachie was a large farmer in Argyllshire, a noted breeder of pure stock for those early days, and was successful with Clydesdales, cattle and sheep, finding the local markets of

Tarbert, Campbelltown, and Lochgilphead good business centres, while Greenock and Glasgow were not beyond reach of the more important sales and purchases. Thus prosperity was wooed and won, but the family, now numbering four sons and five daughters, must be provided for, and the news from Canada, or from America, as all the country beyond the Atlantic was then, as now, generally spoken of, promised glittering fortunes to all comers. So Duncan Maconnachie left the shores of Cantyre for those of Canada, and in 1835 followed in the wake of fellow-countrymen who had settled on the Georgian Bay. There is not much to be said of the voyage. It was like most of the other voyages at that time—a stout ship and a five to six weeks' sail; accommodation fair, victuals eatable, courage high, and hope triumphant. Yet, looking back on that voyage, it was emblematic of much that has passed over the stage of life in the many years since the good ship buffeted the waves and sailed safely to port. But on these moods and memories this is not the place to dilate. The mind turns to them in old age and loves to linger over them:—

“Time but the impression deeper makes  
As streams their channels deeper wear.”

The forms do not grow shadowy, nor the figures dim, and in his ninety-third year Duncan Maconnachie's vision of the scenes of childhood is as clear as it was fifty years ago, and they are more impressive now than then. There was the sacred family circle, the eident, diligent father, the tender, thrifty mother; the Highland hospitality shared by friend and neighbour;

the school at the clachan, the venerable minister of the Auld Kirk, with echoes of MacLeod, McBride, and other great divines of those days. And the parish church ! one of the oldest in the land, storied with tradition, romantic as to situation and surroundings—who could come under its spell in youth and forget it in old age ? The friends of childhood dead in the body live in the memory, and the feelings are refreshed by thoughts of them and their associations. But there is another chapter in the veteran's life which is read and re-read again. In contrast to the Old Land there is the New ; and who that has wielded the pioneer's axe and laid the Lords of the Forest low, can forget the part he bore in rescuing a homestead from the wilds and reducing nature to the great subjection of man ? So with our subject. No time in his life yielded more genuine happiness to him than when acre after acre was being added to his farm and the peace of a good conscience rested upon his arduous labours.

At the Georgian Bay settlement Mr. Maconnachie remained during 1835, and then settled in 1836 in the Township of Clarke, Durham County. He purchased 400 acres of land, and resided on lot 30, concession 5, naming his farm "Glenelg." That was sixty-nine years ago, when the country had to be opened up. The building of the dwelling-house, the clearing of the land, the statute labour, the grinding of the wheat into flour, the domestic duties, the marketing, etc., may be passed over ; they were much the same as those which made up the average experience. Duncan Maconnachie was a strong man, and strength was required for the work of the day. He was an enterprising man, and pioneer ingenuity and resource were necessary. Cattle had to be cared for, wolves to be guarded against, roads to be constructed, and hard work to be endured ; but it was all in the day's darg, and was encountered cheerfully and overcome successfully. He helped to open all the roads from Tricky's Corners to north of Orono. In 1836, when he took up his land, he had only one neighbour in Orono, but it was not long after when settlers streamed in, and a flourishing neighbourhood was established. In 1837 he met with a severe affliction in the death of his brother Archibald, who was killed by a falling tree in the process of the clearing. As the land was cleared, Mr. Maconnachie widened the scope of his labours, and went in for the breeding of thoroughbred horses, especially the Clydesdale blood, and became a leading exhibitor at the Fairs without a break for thirty years. It is an interesting fact that he exhibited at the first Provincial Fair held in Ontario. At these Expositions he was very fairly successful in winning honours.

Twice was he married ; first, to Christina Wilkinson, in 1851, with issue three children ; second, to Mary Macneil, in 1861, who is still living, issue five children ; in all five sons and three daughters.

Duncan Maconnachie, as might have been expected from one brought up under the shadow of Killeen, is a devoted Presbyterian of the old school, and still holds by the principle of the Established Church of Scotland as a State Church. He has not taken warmly to voluntarism, but his own kindly disposition and broad-mindedness have saved him from the narrowness of sectarianism, and he finds the better, not the worse, element in systems whose foundations he cannot personally accept.

A Scot of the old school also is he ; keen in his appreciation of the Gospel, the history, the songs, and the customs of the land in which he was born, he has derived pleasure from them and revived his mind at their fountain. He is the grand old man of Clarke township. Long may his bow abide in its strength.

J. S. M.

## DURHAM OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

### HISTORICAL COMMITTEE'S CIRCULAR.

At a meeting of the "Durham Old Boys' Association" of Toronto, held on June 10th, 1901, a Committee was appointed to collect material relating to the history of the County of Durham, Ontario. The Committee having met and organized, it was decided to issue a circular to be sent to persons residing in the county and elsewhere asking for information regarding the subject. The Committee desires information regarding all parts of the county on the points contained in the following list, and on any other topics which may seem interesting or important to those receiving this circular. The Committee will naturally appreciate most highly that which refers to the earliest period of the history of the county, but it will also be grateful for information regarding recent events. It desires to cover the whole history of the county down to the present year.

If any one has documentary material or portraits, which are too valuable or bulky to be forwarded, the Committee would deem it a kindness to be informed where such material may be seen. If valuable material is entrusted to the Committee, it will be put in a place of permanent safety or returned to the owner as he may desire.

The Committee desires the co-operation of all in this important matter, and ventures to hope that it will find diligent correspondents in all parts of the county, who will assume the duty of gathering information and historical material. It would suggest that gatherings be held, to talk over the doings of former days, and that the oldest inhabitants be invited to contribute from their recollections.

### LIST OF TOPICS.

#### DOCUMENTARY MATERIAL.

Diaries, account books, letters, deeds, leases, records of churches, schools, councils, societies, lodges, etc.; old handbills, copies of old newspapers, particularly such as are extinct; books, pamphlets, etc., written in the county, particularly such as refer to the county; maps; portraits of early settlers, of important public men, etc.

#### ABORIGINES.

Indian villages, tools, products, burial places, relics, etc.

#### EARLIEST WHITE INHABITANTS.

Where born; when they came and by what route; first white children born; oldest persons now alive, etc.

#### ANECDOTES.

Recitals of tragic, romantic, or amusing events.

#### PHYSICAL FEATURES OF COUNTY.

Streams, ponds, etc., that have dried up; deer licks; beaver meadows, etc.

#### • FLORA AND FAUNA.

Floral trees, shrubs, etc., found by settlers; other wild plants, such as grasses, berries, flowers, etc.; wild animals (mention wild animals still existing); use made of the trees, etc.

#### BUILDINGS.

First houses, barns, churches, etc.; changes in these in form, material, etc.; oldest buildings still standing, etc.

#### FURNITURE AND CLOTHING.

Material, etc., of earliest kinds; where made, etc.

#### IMPLEMENTS.

Tools, machines, vehicles, etc.

**PRODUCTS.**

Grains, grasses, fruits, roots, domestic animals, etc.; breeders, etc.

**TRADING.**

Merchants, produce dealers, etc.

**INDUSTRIES.**

Saw mills; asheries; flour mills; distilleries; tanneries; brickyards; carding mills; looms; machine shops; foundries; blacksmith shops, cheese factories, etc.

**ROADS.**

Corduroys; bridges; gravel roads; railroads, etc.; statute labor; "good roads" movement, etc.

**PROFESSIONAL MEN.**

Clergymen; teachers; lawyers; physicians; surveyors, etc.

**CHURCHES.**

When organized; dates of disappearance if extinct; lists of pastors, secretaries, etc.; endowments; revenues; stipends; burying grounds; forms of worship; Sunday Schools; young people's societies; prayer meetings; revivals; soirées; choirs; music, etc.

**SCHOOLS.**

Earliest schools; organization of sections; trustees; teachers; pupils; school meetings; societies such as spelling, debating, and singing schools; school buildings, furniture, etc.; games of children, etc.

**MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.**

Town meetings; organization of townships, villages, towns, etc.; list of officials; elections; revenues; expenditures, etc.

**POLITICS.**

Elections (including caucus, nominations, etc.); changes in ridings; lists of members, etc.

**MILITIA.**

Effect of war of 1812; uprising of 1837; Fenian raid of 1866; North-West rebellions of 1869-70 and 1885; training day; drill sheds; volunteer companies, etc.

**SOCIETIES.**

Freemasons; Orangemen; Sons of Temperance, etc.; when organized; when defunct, if extinct; meeting places; business; programmes; public entertainments; agricultural societies (shows, ploughing matches, etc.).

**AMUSEMENTS.**

Parties; "bees"; raisings; tea-meetings; picnics; celebrations; holidays; games; singing; music; dancing, etc.

**HABITS OF PEOPLE.**

Working; recreation; eating; drinking; use of alcohol, tobacco, etc.; curious customs; superstitions, etc.

**SERVANTS.**

Wages; duties; relations with masters; manner of living; length of engagements, etc.

Correspondents are requested, when furnishing information on any of the foregoing topics, to be as precise as possible in giving names of persons and in reporting the time and place of events. They are also requested not to confine themselves to noting the origins of institutions, industries, etc., but to continue their descriptions down to the present or to the termination of the matters of which they treat.





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# THE ONTARIO ARCHIVES: SCOPE OF ITS OPERATIONS

(Paper read at the twenty-seventh annual meeting of  
the American Historical Association, held at  
Buffalo, N. Y., December 27-30, 1911)

BY

ALEXANDER FRASER

LL. D., LITT. D., F. S. A., SCOT. EDIN.

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Reprinted from the Annual Report of the American Historical Association  
for 1911, pages 353-362



WASHINGTON

1913





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## THE ONTARIO ARCHIVES.

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By ALEXANDER FRASER, Provincial Archivist.

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The line of demarcation between the Canadian or Dominion archives and the Ontario or other provincial archives is somewhat similar to that between the Federal and State archives in the United States. It consists with the scope of the jurisdiction of the Dominion or major commonwealth, and the narrower or minor jurisdiction of the Province. This constitutes a clearly defined boundary within which both work without conflict or overlapping of interests. Our public charter is an imperial statute entitled the British North America act, and to-day, when there are nine fully constituted, autonomous Provinces within the Dominion of Canada, it is interesting to recall that when the British North America act became law in 1867 the subtitle set forth that it was "An act for the union of Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, and the government thereof; and for purposes connected therewith."

This act provides for the government of Ontario a lieutenant-governor, who represents the Crown; an executive council of ministers of state and a legislature composed of duly elected representatives of the people. To this body the act secures exclusive legislative powers in Ontario and Quebec, in the matter of Crown lands, forests and mines; education, from the public common school to the university; municipal government, institutions and laws; incorporation of chartered companies—commercial, financial, professional, or social; solemnization of marriage, involving family history, vital statistics, etc.; property and civil rights; administration of justice, embracing both civil and criminal jurisdiction; agriculture and immigration, under which municipal, industrial, and agricultural statistics are collected, tabulated, and published; the founding and maintenance of provincial institutions such as hospitals, asylums, reformatories, prisons, and institutions for the instruction of the deaf and dumb and the blind; offices for the local registration of deeds, titles to land; the licensing of shops, taverns, hotels, auctioneers, etc.; the erection of local public works; the authorization and regulation of transportation not interprovincial.

In short the Provincial Government gets close to the life of the people and touches its business and social sides intimately. As at present constituted the ministry comprises the departments of: The attorney general, dealing with the administration of law; the provincial secretary, controlling registration, and the public insti-

tutions; the provincial treasurer, dealing with the public accounts; agriculture; lands, forests, and mines; public works; and education. The prime minister is statutorily president of the council and head of the ministry. Besides these and exercising semi-ministerial or departmental functions are two commissions, the hydro-electric commission and the Government railway commission. These, with the legislature itself, are the departments of government in which our archives originate.

Archives we have defined as the records, the business papers, of the province having a permanent value. All archives need not be of historical value in the narrow sense. Public documents may have a business or record value apart from history, yet it would be hard to say that any given document might not be found useful in some way in connection with history. The main value of a document is as an evidence of truth. Every document does not contain truth, yet even such a document may, in effect, be a fact in history, and training and experience lead to a reasonably true interpretation.

The Ontario Bureau of Archives, organized in 1903, is equally related and attached to all the Government departments, and receives all papers and documents of record value or of historical interest, not in current use, from all branches of the public service. When possible, these documents are classified, calendared, and indexed.

The archives originating in the legislative assembly are: The Scroll of Parliament—the documents known by that title being the notes and memoranda made by the clerk, of the routine proceedings of the house during its sessions; the original signatures of the members of the legislative assembly subscribed to the oath of allegiance when “sworn in” as members of the assembly, the signatures being written on parchment; copies of the statutes in the form in which they have been assented to and signed by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor. These copies are printed on good paper, and after having been assented to become the originals of the statutes in force; and the original copy pertaining to the consolidated statutes.

Among the assembly archives are the manuscripts of all sessional papers not printed (a sessional paper is a return called for by order of the house, whether printed or not, and the reports of departments and all branches of the public service presented to the house); the originals of all petitions presented to the house (these are not printed); the originals of bills in the form in which they are presented to the house; and copies of bills amended during their passage through the house. The original copy of sessional papers which are printed is returned with the proof sheets to the department or officer issuing the same.

Naturally next in importance to the records of the legislature are those of the executive council or Government. All matters requiring executive action are brought before the council upon the recommendation or report of the minister having the subject matter in charge. The recommendation or report is addressed to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The reports of the committee of council are signed by the prime minister as president, are countersigned by the clerk and submitted to the lieutenant governor for approval, after which the document becomes and is known as an order of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council. Effect is given to orders in council affecting the general public by the promulgation of them in the Ontario Gazette; otherwise by the transmission of certified copies to the departments or persons concerned. The original orders (together with the recommendations, reports, and papers upon which they are based), after being registered in special journals, become most valuable records and much in request.

Through the department of the attorney general access is obtained to the voluminous records, rich in personal history and jurisprudence, arising from the administration of justice, in its vast ramifications and details, reaching from the policeman and justice of the peace to the high courts and court of appeal; from the homely minutes of the quarter sessions of early times, to the record of the recent cause célèbre which influenced the legislation of the country, or settled questions of constitutional import.

With the office of the provincial secretary the provincial archivist necessarily has very close relations. The office of the secretary is the medium of communication, through the lieutenant governor, between the provincial, dominion, and imperial governments. All such correspondence is registered and copies of the dispatches are kept. All commissions bearing the great seal of the Province are issued by the secretary, and are registered in his office, as are also all appointments made by his Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council requiring the issuance of a commission. Charters of incorporation, licenses for extra-provincial companies doing business in Ontario, and marriage licenses are issued here under the direction of the secretary; here also are made records of all Crown land patents (the earliest record being 1795), the records of all mining leases and deeds and leases relating to the public lands, etc. In the secretary's office are kept the vital statistics of the Province. From the organization of the Province in 1792 until 1849 marriages were recorded in the parish and congregational registers kept by clergymen, in the minute books of the quarter sessions of the peace, and in the memorandum books of justices of the peace. In addition to this, fairly complete records of births were made in the baptismal registers, and of deaths in the journals of clergymen, who recorded the deaths of

parishioners for congregational purposes. Many of these old books, however, have been either lost or destroyed, or their disposition is not known. In 1849 the municipalities were enabled to make provision by by-law for the registration of births, marriages, and deaths, and advantage was taken of that statute to a very considerable extent. From the passing of the law of 1849 until 1874 all records of marriages in the Province were returned to the city and county registrars, who became their official custodians. In 1869 the office of the registrar general was established and compulsory registration of births, marriages, and deaths introduced. Until 1874 the returns were still sent to the county and city registrars, but since 1874 they have been sent direct to the registrar general's office. The work of transcribing these returns and preserving them in proper form has been proceeding for years; and the documents, books, and statistical papers of the office, which are in safe keeping, form an invaluable collection of archives.

In addition to the original vouchers of the public accounts, the treasury department contains the papers of the succession duty office, including affidavits made by the applicants on all applications for letters probate or letters of administration in the Province showing the value, as at the date of the death of a deceased person, of such person's estate, with a general statement of the distribution thereof; including copies of wills, affidavits of value, bonds, and other documents which in particular cases have been furnished in order that the amount of succession duty payable, in cases liable to payment, might be ascertained. These documents are not generally accessible to the public, as they relate to the private concerns not only of deceased but of living persons, but they are a valuable addition to the surrogate courts' records which are a mine of genealogical information.

The great staple enterprises of Ontario are agriculture, industrial production, lumbering, mining, and in general, trade and commerce. Of these agriculture is the greatest, and the records of its growth and development have a special value to the student of economics. The statistical branch, formed in 1882, issues annual reports dealing with agricultural and municipal interests—assessment figures, population, areas assessed, taxes imposed, annual receipts and expenditures, assets and liabilities, chattel mortgages, proving of value to municipal debenture holders and the public generally.

Of all our departments, the bureau of archives has drawn most largely on the documentary treasures of the department of Crown lands. The material of historical interest here is exceedingly varied and valuable, embracing the records of the surveys of the Province; the original maps, field notes, and diaries relating to the survey of all the townships dating back to 1784, and reports of all the explorations made within the limits of the Province since that date; reports show-

ing the planning out and surveys of the old military roads, such as Dundas Street, Yonge Street, the Penetanguishene and Kingston Roads, and the papers in connection with the surveys of the Talbot Road, the Huron Road, the Garafraxa Road, the Toronto and Sydenham Road (Owen Sound). There is much valuable information in the notes concerning the pioneer settlements. This branch also contains plans of all the old Indian reserves of the Province and reports indicating the early condition of the Indian settlements on these reserves; also of the ordnance surveys in the Province pertaining to land grants to old settlers; plans of the military reserves and plans showing the location and groundwork of the early forts. Besides these there are the original surveys of all the lands acquired by the Canada company and of those granted to King's College. A collection of much importance already transferred to the archives vaults is that embracing the diaries or journals of David Thompson, the astronomer royal, covering a period of 66 years, from 1784 to 1850, and making about 50 volumes. Thompson's famous map showing the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from a little south of the Great Lakes to Hudson Bay, is carefully preserved in the collection. Thompson's journals and map have furnished interesting material to students of our early history. They have been used by Mr. Coues in his work entitled "New Light on the Great North-West," and have been found useful in connection with editions of Henry's and Thompson's journals. Competent authorities regard Thompson's work as most valuable to the State, especially in the fixing of boundary lines; but of little less importance are the field notes and diaries of many of the early surveyors, not merely for topographical reasons but on account of the detailed information given. In a separate vault are many other valuable and interesting documents, including the United Empire Loyalists' lists, the records of land grants to immigrants, to discharged soldiers, and the militia grants of warrants to discharged troops, to United Empire Loyalists, volumes of land board certificates, returns of locations compiled for the quartermaster general, fiat and warrant books, domesday books, containing original entries of every lot that is patented, and extending to 26 large volumes, descriptions and terms or references on which patents and leases are issued, patents for Crown lands, mining lands, free grant lands, and mining leases. There are also a series of maps of the townships of the Province as surveyed, which have the names of the original holders and settlers entered on each lot or block of land. These maps show among other things the grant made to King's College, and the lands allotted to the Canada Land Co. The historical value of these records is inestimable, for without them the settlement of the Province could not be traced or shown.

The most interesting archives emanating from the public-works department are the records of the early colonization roads—arteries of settlement and trade routes—and the title deeds, plans and specifications, contracts, maps, and documents relating to Crown property, buildings, and institutions, a finely conditioned collection.

I have thus, at considerable length, described the field in which the archivist of Ontario labors and out of which he is gradually building up his storehouse of archives. The main purpose of the bureau is that of a record office of State papers, primarily for their proper preservation and for the greater convenience of the public service. This is in the nature of things. A central office, in which papers from all departments of the Government are lodged after they have passed out of current use, examined, classified, and filed by a staff familiar with their contents, need only be brought into use to become indispensably serviceable in the carrying on of public business; but in addition, the archivist, knowing the contents of the documents in his custody, is able to direct and help in a manner that can not otherwise be done, that portion of the public interested in the information contained in the Government archives.

Notwithstanding the completeness and compactness of the field I have briefly sketched as a logical and correct one for the purposes of a State record office, it is nevertheless equally obvious that Government records alone do not nor can embrace all the archives properly so called of a State or Province. When, therefore, I was asked, eight years ago, to organize a bureau of archives for Ontario, I laid out a much wider plan than that I have referred to, with, however, the State record office always as the central idea. The bureau is therefore double barreled; it draws from the pigeonholes of the departments, and it collects outside material that may throw light on the settlement and development of the Province of Ontario, the source of which is often far afield. For instance, the Province of Quebec (including Ontario), up to 1774 included all to the south and west as far as St. Louis and the Mississippi, and of course, what became in 1791 Upper Canada. The British régime is touched by the French and the French by the Indian.

In carrying out this plan the bureau aims at the collection of documents having, in the widest sense, a bearing upon the political or social history of Ontario, and upon its agricultural, industrial, commercial, and financial development; the collection of municipal, school, and church records; the collection and preservation of pamphlets, maps, charts, manuscripts, papers, regimental muster rolls, etc., bearing on its past or present history; the collection and preservation of facts illustrative of the early settlements, pioneer experience, customs, mode of living, prices, wages, boundaries, areas cultivated, homes, etc.; the collection and preservation of correspondence,

letters from and to settlers, documents in private hands pertaining to public and social affairs, etc., reports of local events and historic incidents in the family or public life; the rescuing from oblivion of the memory of the pioneer settlers, the obtaining and preserving narratives of their early exploits, and of the part they took in opening up the country for occupation; and the bureau cooperates with the historical societies of Ontario and societies kindred to them, helping to consolidate and classify their work, and as far as practicable to direct local effort on given lines.

Within this scope the following plan of work has been adopted: To divide the history of Ontario until the confederation of the Provinces in 1867 into its political periods, arranging the material secured in chronological order, and giving each period a series of reports. Thus the work has been carried on in all the divisions simultaneously, and when sufficient material has accumulated in any one of them, it has been utilized by the publication of documents without undue delay. From confederation onward, the larger quantity of material to be dealt with, and the probable absence of sweeping constitutional changes to mark eras, suggested a chronological rather than a political basis of division. The periods are:

1. To the close of the French régime, or the period of French discovery, 1763.
2. To the organization of the Province of Upper Canada, 1791.
3. To the legislative union of Upper and Lower Canada, 1841.
4. To confederation, 1867.
5. To the end of the nineteenth century, 1900.

In each of these divisions there is much work to do. Each has its own distinctive features, and there is abundance of minor incident.

Material of special interest to Ontario bearing on the French régime is contained in the "Correspondance Générale," in the papers of the "Collection de Moreau St. Méry," which have been transcribed from the Paris archives for the Canadian archives, most of which has never been published in printed form. There is also valuable Ontario material in the "Haldimand Collection of papers," the "Bouquet Papers," and the Colonial Office records bearing on this period. It is intended to collect and publish these papers, accompanied by an adequate translation, when not written in English, and adding extracts in chronological order from the publications of Perrot, La Potherie, La Harpe, Charlevoix, De Kalm, the Jesuit Relations, papers by Margry, and a portion of the "Mémoire pour Messire François Bigot," which contains what seems to be an excellent summary of the commerce and condition of all the western trading posts at the time of the conquest. Other sources of material for publication have also been considered in connection with this early period.

Aboriginal or Indian history presents many interesting features to us, and some attention has been given to the subject, including an inquiry as to the original savage occupants of Ontario, their origin, migrations, traffic, and intercourse; their language, topographical nomenclature, folklore, and literature; the origin and development of their clan, tribal, and national organization; the history and results of European contact; their present condition, capabilities, and tendencies.

This period of Ontario history, that of the French régime, will be our heroic age, as "distance lends enchantment to the view." Here will be found the adventurous *coureurs de bois*, many of the great routes and trading posts, the headquarters of which in later times was Fort William, on Thunder Bay. Here the Huron and Iroquois met in deadly conflict; here also the French missionaries of the Cross endured untold sufferings with ecstatic heroism, and receiving the martyr's crown left a record of Christian zeal and fortitude not surpassed, if at all equaled, in the history of the world. Events which stirred the imagination and fascinated the finely poised mind of a Parkman will yet furnish the material for Canada's great, unwritten epic poem.

The Ontario bureau of archives has made a beginning in this field by publishing a volume on the "Identification of the Huron Village Sites," where those missionaries labored and fell, prepared by the venerable and scholarly archivist of St. Mary's College, Montreal, the Rev. Father Jones, S. J., a contribution, I believe, of undoubted value. It may be taken as significant of our attitude that a work of such erudite research has been treated as a public document and issued free to the people at the expense of the Government. It will soon be followed by the writings of Father Potier, a work of far-reaching importance and interest, which is in process of preparation for the press. The three volumes of manuscript have been photographed page by page and a zincograph facsimile of the original will be placed before scholars, a work the casual announcement of which has already whetted the appetites of not a few antiquarians.

Leaving this interesting period for the second I have mentioned, we reach the coming to Ontario of the United Empire Loyalists. These form the basis of our population and still give color to our political thought and form and fashion to our institutions. In this period we have published two volumes, one of about 1,500 pages, being the manuscript of evidence laid before a royal commission reporting on the claims for compensation for losses suffered by the United Empire Loyalists, a document now out of print and much sought for. The other volume consists of the minutes of the land board of the western district of Ontario, bordering on Lake Erie



and the Detroit River, containing particulars of grants of land before 1792, schedules, regulations, description lists of grantees, and surveys, and a mass of data connected with Indian rights and the settlement of land generally. It has been of value in land-title lawsuits, etc., and extends to more than 500 pages.

Combining this period with the succeeding one, we have collected the proclamations by the Crown from 1763 to 1840 and issued them in a volume, the necessity of which has been felt, as may be understood when it is stated that no such collection had ever been made before, though these proclamations are of public use in an endless variety of business.

Under our third division the narrower political history of our Province begins, the introduction of constitutional government—the work of the legislature, some of whose early records are lost, the outbreak of the War of 1812, the progress of settlement, and the development of municipal and commercial institutions, the restiveness leading to the rising of 1837, and the concessions made to responsible government. Here a great deal of archival work has been already accomplished. The journals of the proceedings of the legislature of Upper Canada from 1792 to 1818, so far as we have been able to find them, have been published and the series will be issued to the year 1824, from which year printed copies are in existence. The journals of the legislative council concurrent with those of the legislative assembly down to 1816 have also been published, and one volume in each series, now in the press, will complete the work. These journals are simply indispensable, being the original evidence of all our legislation. Our constitutional development and the history of our legislature can not be studied or understood without them. I may be pardoned should I refer particularly to one of many interesting questions dealt with in the closing years of the eighteenth century as shown in these journals. The legislative assembly, following the rule of the Imperial House of Commons, claimed the power of the purse, and objected to their supply bill being amended by the legislative council or upper house. A deadlock ensued; neither side would budge from its position; a conference of both houses was held and the assembly won on the understanding that the question would be referred to the law officers of the Crown in Britain for future guidance. This was accordingly done and the right claimed by the assembly or lower house was conceded to it. Thus was solved amicably for Canada at the small hamlet of Newark, on the banks of the Niagara, a constitutional principle which recently shook the United Kingdom and produced a serious and radical constitutional crisis, in which once more the Commons vindicated their supremacy in questions of national finance.

The records of the first Court of Common Pleas for Upper Canada, with valuable annotations and historical notes, are being prepared for the press.

In this division we have in hand among other things the preparation of a domesday book for the Province. Our plan, which has made substantial progress, is to cover all our settlement of Crown lands from 1783 to 1900 by townships, giving each grantee a description, and, for the purpose of reference, a number. Succeeding volumes will furnish memoirs, notes, and statistical data of a special character bearing on the grantees and on their settlements. In this connection we are collecting and rapidly accumulating local material which will be drawn upon for this work. This I consider one of the biggest undertakings planned by the bureau, which occupy much time to bring it to completion, but when completed will be a work of reference of permanent use to our historical investigators.

We are also collecting papers and documents pertaining to the political history of Ontario that ought to be preserved in permanent form, which will be issued in a series of four consecutive volumes. These have been planned on lines that will bring their usefulness directly to the growing class of students of our provincial history.

Lately a genealogical branch has been included in our program and steps are being taken to obtain by legislation a change of official forms so as to help in the collecting of data. The work will be conducted on the basis of the county unit, with correspondents engaged under the direction of the bureau.

While effort has been directed on these lines, I have paid more attention to the collecting of much neglected material throughout the Province—in the hands of private individuals, public bodies, or local officials, rather than to the exact and adequate classification and indexing of outside material as it is being received. The Province has been so long entirely neglected that when I undertook to organize the department I decided that the most valuable service I could render to the public was to acquire, to collect, and safely preserve whatever material I could find, believing the day would soon come when the value of such material would be fully realized and the necessary office assistance provided to enable me to make the accumulated archives conveniently accessible to the public.