

BIBLIOGRAPHY IN CANADA.

BIBLIOGRAPHY is as yet only in its infancy in Canada. A few tentative efforts have been made at different times to render the stores of Canadian literature more accessible, through the publication of general or special bibliographies, but the effort has always been a labour of love, unrewarded, and generally unrecognized. However, there are signs of an awakening. Canadian students and investigators are beginning to find that even the rare and imperfect bibliographies at present in existence save an astonishing amount of time and labour in hunting up material on the subjects covered. It is probable that the spread of the library movement in Canada, and the influence of such scholarly librarians as Mr. Gould of McGill University, Dr. Bain of the Toronto public library, and Mr. Langton of the University of Toronto, will in time make possible the preparation and publication of bibliographies covering every branch of Canadian literature, and of real service to students both at home and abroad.

One of the first bibliographies that is required—and urgently required—is one devoted to the historical literature of Canada. Larned's 'Literature of American history, with Wells' Supplement,' include much Canadian material, prepared by Canadian contributors; but there are many im-

portant gaps in the list, and the scope of the work, so far as Canadian material is concerned, is not sufficiently broad to be of the highest possible service to students of Canadian history. What is needed is an exhaustive bibliography, covering not merely the well-known books, but everything of importance in book form bearing on Canadian history, as well as historical pamphlets and magazine articles where these have not been subsequently reprinted in book form; it should also include manuscripts which are often of supreme importance. In the Archives Office at Ottawa, in the Library of Parliament, in the Department of State, and other departments of the Dominion Government, in various departments of the Provincial Governments, in the libraries of Laval University, McGill University, St. Mary's Jesuit College, Montreal, the University of Toronto, the Toronto public library, the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec, the Nova Scotia Historical Society, and the Manitoba Historical Society, to mention no others, Canadians possess manuscripts of the greatest historical value, but which at present are for the most part inaccessible and unknown to all but a few students who have had the time and courage to dig out the information for themselves, and even these are familiar with but a small portion of the manuscript material in existence in Canadian libraries.

It may be worth while to give here a brief account of the Canadian bibliographies and bibliographical material at present available—an account which of course does not profess to be anything like exhaustive.

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By far the most interesting Canadian bibliography is Philéas Gagnon's '*Essai de Bibliographie Canadienne*,' published in 1895. This is a remarkable bibliography of a very remarkable private library—his own—enriched with notes, facsimiles of title-pages, ex-libris, etc. It covers not only books, but maps, plans, portraits, plates, and a very important collection of Canadian manuscripts and letters. There are letters and historical documents in this collection signed with such famous Canadian names as Montcalm, and his great military antagonist, Wolfe; Frontenac; Cadillac, the founder of Detroit; Bigot, the famous, or infamous, Intendant of New France; de Vaudreuil, and many of the other Governors of New France, as well as most of the British Governors after the conquest of Quebec; all the French kings who ruled during the period of French rule in Canada; Cardinal Richelieu; Father Lafitau, the historian; Father Lalemant, the Jesuit martyr; Laval, first Roman Catholic Bishop of Quebec; Le Loutre, the Acadian missionary, whose venomous hatred of British rule was largely instrumental in bringing about the expulsion of the Acadians; Charlevoix, the early Canadian historian; Lord Durham; Benjamin Franklin, who, it will be remembered, visited Montreal in the unsuccessful effort to win the French-Canadians to the support of the Thirteen Colonies; Thomas Chandler Haliburton, and many other early Canadian writers; John Galt, the Scottish novelist, who was for some years connected with the Canada Company; Alexander Henry, western fur-trader and traveller; Francis Parkman; Papineau, leader

of the French-Canadian rebellion of 1837; and many others.

A beginning has been made in the preparation of Canadian bibliographies covering the various sciences. In the 'Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada,' vol. xi (1894), there is an elaborate bibliography of the members of the society, compiled by the late Sir John Bourinot, and arranged after the plan of the bibliographies of the American Historical Association. This covers practically all the published work, whether in book form or periodicals, of every member of the Royal Society, up to that date, and of course includes both the scientific and literary sections of the society. Sir John Bourinot had planned a continuation of the bibliography, but did not live to carry it out. Possibly some other member of the society may be persuaded to undertake the task—though it is no light undertaking.

Within the last few years the several scientific sections of the Royal Society have published in the annual 'Transactions' bibliographies of all the important material published during the previous year, in their respective departments. These bibliographies are, fortunately, not confined to fellows of the Royal Society, but cover all Canadian work.

There are also to be found, scattered through the numbers of scientific periodicals, Canadian, American, and English, a number of valuable individual bibliographies, such as Mr. B. E. Walker's 'List of writings of the late Elkanah Billings' (the well-known Canadian botanist), in the Canadian Record of Science, viii, 266-387. The chief desideratum

here is a bibliography of these individual bibliographies, which under existing conditions are practically inaccessible.

Mr. David Boyle, of Toronto, has from time to time published in the 'Archaeological Report' issued annually by the Ontario Government, a bibliography of Canadian archaeology. The value of this bibliography would be immensely enhanced if the several parts were brought together in one alphabet, and published in separate form.

In general bibliographies not much has yet been done in Canada. The late Dr. Kingsford, author of the 'History of Canada,' published in 1892 a small volume on the 'Early Bibliography of Ontario.' This covers most of the early publications of Upper Canada and Ontario. W. G. MacFarlane's 'New Brunswick Bibliography' does the same for that province.

Dr. Henry J. Morgan's 'Bibliotheca Canadensis,' of which a new edition is in preparation, covers fairly well the larger field of Canadian literature, though of course it does not pretend to be anything like exhaustive.

Mr. W. R. Haight, of Toronto, published in 1896 a Canadian 'Catalogue of Books, 1791-1895.' The intention is to cover this period gradually, in a series of parts, of which this is the first, and doubtless eventually the several parts will be thrown into a single alphabet. The main catalogue is also being supplemented by annual supplements, of which two have been issued. As the second, covering the year 1897, was only issued this year, the supplements are woefully in arrears. The useful-

ness of the catalogue for purposes of reference is also very much marred by the plan adopted of including not merely Canadian books, or books on Canada, but also Canadian editions of English and American books which have not the remotest connection with Canada, and which are, of course, already included in the United States or English catalogues.

A few years ago Mr. C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Toronto, prepared a 'Bibliography of Canadian Verse,' which was issued as one of the publications of Victoria College, Toronto. M. P. G. Roy, of Quebec, has also issued a 'Bibliographie de la poésie Franco-Canadienne.' Mr. James's bibliography, it may be noted, covers only English-Canadian poetry.

This year Victoria College brought out a second bibliography, devoted to Canadian fiction, compiled by Professor L. E. Horning and the present writer.

Not much has yet been done in the way of individual bibliographies in Canadian literature, and as a matter of fact there is not much necessity for individual bibliographies, except for scientific works, as very few Canadian writers have as yet been prolific or important enough to demand a separate bibliography. The most important exception has fortunately already been covered, and exceedingly well covered. I refer to Thomas Chandler Haliburton ('Sam Slick'), an authoritative bibliography of whose writings, by Mr. John Parker Anderson of the British Museum, is included in the memorial volume entitled, 'Haliburton: A Centenary Chaplet,' published for the Haliburton

Club of King's College, Windsor, N.S. This bibliography was the more necessary as most of the existing lists of Haliburton's works, such as those in Morgan's '*Bibliotheca Canadensis*,' and Allibone's Dictionary, are both incomplete and inaccurate.

Two years ago, at the request of the late Sir John Bourinot, I prepared for the Royal Society a general Canadian bibliography of the year 1901, which will be found in the transactions of the Society for the following year. The idea was that it might serve as an example—however inadequate—of what might be accomplished by the Society, if the bibliography were continued annually. As it stands the specimen is, of course, comparatively useless, covering as it does only a single year. It includes also a great deal of unimportant material which perhaps only served to give a false impression of the importance of Canadian contemporary literature. What is most required is an annual Canadian bibliography covering all that is of real value or importance published during the year, whether in book form or in periodicals or pamphlets, and in every department of human knowledge. To do this adequately it would be essential that several men, having special knowledge, should each take charge of a specific subject, and the resulting material should then be turned over to a general editor who would put it into proper bibliographic shape. This suggestion was made to the Royal Society, but there did not seem to be sufficient interest in the matter to make it a success.

There is a good deal of what may be called bib-

liographic material available in Canada; that is to say, bibliographies, more or less fragmentary, in books of reference, histories, etc. Among these may be mentioned a number of partial lists in Mr. J. Castell Hopkins' 'Canada: An Encyclopaedia of the Country'; a bibliography of printed and manuscript literature relating to the Hudson's Bay Company, in Dr. Bryce's 'History of the Hudson's Bay Company'; a series of bibliographic notes appended to Sir John Bourinot's 'Canada under British Rule'; and a carefully selected list of books relating to Canada, in a volume entitled, 'Canadian Life in Town and Country,' by Dr. Henry J. Morgan and the writer, now in press.

Other incidental material of a bibliographic nature will be found in the annual Archives Reports, published by the Canadian Government. Last year's report, particularly, contains a list of the books in the Archives library. The entire series of Archives Reports cover all the manuscript material in the Archives, arranged in the form of calendars. If the Canadian Government could only be induced to publish a complete bibliography of the manuscripts in the Archives, they would earn the gratitude of every student of early Canadian history.

The catalogue of works relating to America in the Library of Parliament at Ottawa, is of some importance; as are also the subject-catalogue of books in the Toronto Reference Library; the Nova Scotia catalogue of manuscript documents, 1710-1867; the list of lectures, papers, and historical documents published by the Literary and

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Historical Society of Quebec; and the Bibliography of the Canadian Society of Authors.

In addition to all these, there is, of course, a good deal of Canadian bibliographic material in such American and British publications as Poole's and Fletcher's Indexes, the United States and English Catalogues, Sonnenschein's Best Books, and the Supplement, the Reader's Guide to periodical literature and the Cumulative Index (now combined), the Cumulative Book Index, Allibone's 'Dictionary of Authors,' Winsor's 'Narrative and Critical History of America,' HARRISSE's historical bibliographies, SABIN's 'Dictionary of Books relating to America,' the published bibliographies of the American Historical Association, and other works of a like nature.

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