126 principal works consulted in preparing this study — a "mini" bibliography that well represents the contours of this general area, and (5) a chronological index of the first editions cited. The general index (45 pages) is thorough, carefully cross-indexed, and in a typographical dress that distinguishes subjects, persons, and titles. The endpapers reproduce that portion of John Arrowsmith's map of British North America published in London in 1848 which reveals that this map was "By permission dedicated to the Hon. Hudson's Bay Company; Containing the latest information which their documents furnish."

In sum this volume is an exemplar of bibliographic and typographic organization, presentation, and book production that is a pleasure to use. A copy of the octavo Navigations, Traffiques & Discoveries 1774-1848 alongside the quarto Laying the Foundations belongs in every collection, private as well as public, that is seriously concerned with the literature of the area that in 1971 observed its centennial of becoming the sixth Province of Canada.

R. C. Ellsworth,
Queen's University Library


Members of the Bibliographical Society of Canada will certainly recall that Mr Lande published in 1965 The Lawrence Lande Collection of Canadians in the Redpath Library of McGill University; the fine paper, handsome typography, and many facsimiles in original colours, made that a volume beyond comparison. Now Mr Lande has collected a further 2541 books and pamphlets to supplement the original gift to McGill, and has published a catalogue of the collection under the title Rare and Unusual Canadians.

This reviewer would endorse the statements in the Introduction by Dr. Stanley B. Frost of McGill University on the role of the collector in the preservation of man's artistic and literary past. Though great research libraries are built up through the selection of books from the annual offerings of the world's presses, the pride of most libraries is the special collections, and as often as not these are the result of some private collector's purposeful acquisitiveness in a limited subject field. The reviewer saw the name of Philæas Gagnon in the selection "Bibliographical Authorities," and thought of the many scholars who have used this earlier Quebec bibliophile's collection, housed these past seventy years in the Bibliothèque de la Ville de Montréal, and of the many more scholars who have consulted the two catalogues of the collection. Likewise, Lawrence Lande's presentation of his Canadians collections to McGill University Library, and his printing of two catalogues, will place in his debt scholars in Canadian studies.

The form of each bibliographical entry is as follows: the author (or the short
title, in the case of a pseudonymous or anonymous work) is given in capitals, with dates, on one line. The title is also capitalized, with further information, commencing with the imprint, in lower-case letters. The pagination is full, and information on the binding is included. Where a book is in any of the four dozen bibliographies listed by Mr Lande as authorities, these references are cited as the final item of the bibliographical entry. Many entries are annotated, and these notes on authorship, printing, or provenance enhance the usefulness of the catalogue. Each entry has a sequential number, the number preceded by the letter “S” to indicate that it is a title in the supplemental volume. A curious feature is that all numbers are in manuscript, and though they are not in the hand of Mr Lande, they suggest a private collector’s intimacy with his books.

The arrangement of the catalogue is alphabetical by author. The three separate indexes are by author, title, and subject. An interesting and commendable feature of the subject index is that some subjects are introduced by an essay written by an authority in the field.

The user will quickly discover that the catalogue lives up to its title as a collection of rare and unusual Canadiana. According to the index, there are approximately 200 “broadsides, circulars, and ephemera.” The French Regime is well represented by some 120 items, Confederation literature by an equal number, and that criterion of any Canadiana collection – pre-1800 Canadian imprints – by 80 titles. The Canadian West is exceptionally well covered. No doubt Mr Lande as a collector, on acquiring a book or pamphlet which is unique, has tingled with that thrill of discovery felt by Keats “On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer” –

Then felt I like some watcher of the skies
When a new planet swims into his ken;
Or like stout Cortez, when with eagle eyes
He stared at the Pacific . . .

– and so too will the lover of Canadiana in spying in this catalogue a title which has hitherto been unknown to him.

The catalogue would seem singularly free from typographical errors; the only one to catch this reviewer’s eye was a plural “s” where a possessive one was intended in item s1310, a small matter. The catalogue was produced by a photographic method, from the original typed cards. While the volume is adequate for scholarly use, bibliophiles who revelled in the physical beauty of the earlier Lande catalogue will be disappointed; the production of that fine volume was a once-in-a-lifetime effort for any collector. But this book suffers only by comparison. Scholars will appreciate Mr Lande’s initiative in collecting and making known these many titles of Rare and Unusual Canadiana.

The work, published in an edition of 500 signed copies, is distributed only by Bernard Ammattan, Inc., 1176 Sherbrooke Street West, Montreal.

Bruce Peel,
University of Alberta Library