

WOMEN'S CANADIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF OTTAWA.

February, 15th, 1899.

The Women's Canadian Historical Society of Ottawa owes its origin to the efforts of Lady Edgar, who gathered together on the third day of June, 1898, in her drawing-room, on Parliament Hill, a little company of ladies to discuss the formation of a Women Historical Society. The meeting was representative, thirty ladies being present, and the interest aroused by Lady Edgar's words explanatory of the need and nature of an historical society was indicative of the cordial support which the organization was to receive from the women of Ottawa generally. A resolution was moved by Lady Ritchie, seconded by Mrs. George E. Foster, and carried unanimously, which ran thus: "Resolved that steps be taken to form a Women's Canadian Historical Society of Ottawa," and a provisional committee was thereupon chosen, with our President of to-day as Convener. The duties of this committee were to draft a constitution and attend to all the necessary preliminaries to a successful organization in the autumn. The second of the processes of the formation was a very pleasant address by Miss FitzGibbon, delivered a week later in the drawing-room of Mrs. S. E. Dawson, on the working and value of the Toronto sister society, which added fuel to the enthusiasm. The success of the proposed society became a matter of determination with those present, whose number had grown from the last meeting.

The provisional committee did not meet again until October the 15th, when they succeeded in drawing up a constitution on the model of that of the Women's Canadian Historical Society of Toronto. The formation meeting of the Society was held in the Normal School Hall on the afternoon of Friday, November 8th, at 3.30 o'clock. Mrs. George E. Foster presided, and there were between forty and fifty ladies present. The following officers were elected on the nomination of the provisional committee.

<i>Honorary President,</i>	-	-	-	Lady Laurier.
<i>President,</i>	-	-	-	Mrs. George E. Foster.

Vice-Presidents:

Lady Caron,
Madam La Mothe,
Lady Bourinot,

Mrs. R. Dobell,
Miss Harmon,
Mrs. T. C. Keefer,

Mrs. H. K. Egan.