

priety of at once taking immediate steps towards the construction in some central locality of a good Public Hall. An energetic Committee could, by local as well as outside assistance, soon have a structure that would prove an ornament to the city and redound with credit to the St. Andrew's Society, of Ottawa.

Your Committee would note the fact that the Society was organized in 1847, but its prosperity may be said to date from the reorganization in 1859 after the due celebration of the Centenary of Robert Burns, by the Scotchmen of Ottawa. It was incorporated in 1870, which seems to have given the Society a fresh impetus towards attaining strength. Its sources of revenue are few, being from the small fee yearly paid by its members, the profits arising from whatever entertainments are given of a public character and interests accruing from whatever investments of money happens to be at our disposal. Although by the energy and care of the managers in the past, a certain fund has been realized, it is no criterion that this state of things will continue. The city is rapidly growing, and with it privation and want grow, and consequently a greater demand is likely to be made upon the funds of the Society in future. Poverbially our countrymen are noted for their industry and frugality, yet they are liable to the vicissitudes of life, and frequently, from want of employment, sickness or death, many of them are reduced to penury, and need the sympathy and aid of their fellow-countrymen. The Society has nobly adhered to its motto: "*Relieve the Distressed,*" and no aspersion can be cast upon its managers, where cases of destitution were actually within their reach. The Society seeks employment for, and gives money and advice to the stranger; transportation is furnished to the indigent wayfarer wishing to go to his friends; it gives food, fuel, clothing or money to the destitute widow or orphan; a physician and medicine to the sick; and if death comes, as it sometimes does, to the poor or stranger, the funeral and other incidental expenses are paid. Your Committee would therefore recommend the members to renew their exertions in the interests of the Society, and would suggest the propriety of again soliciting, by Committees formed for the purpose, donations of money, food, fuel and clothing, as it would prevent in a measure the heavy drain now being made on the available funds. We also suggest the necessity of instituting Social Gatherings or Readings of a National character, as they would bring together people of our Nationality to converse, recite

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