

Levis," by M. L'Abbe Casgrain, from the author; a copy of the *Quebec Gazette*, being the printed transactions of the Quebec Historical Society, 1873, from Mrs. Chamberlin.

It is to be regretted that owing to the Society having no suitable place to display the various relics, books and papers that have been given it, or placed in its charge, the members derive no benefit from their possession.

The Society has had to mourn the loss of one of its oldest and most interested members in Mrs. Mary Walton, and of a valued honorary member in the late Colonel John Hunter Duvar, of Hernewood, P.E.I., the author of "Roberval" and other poems; and within the last few days the oldest member of the Society, Mrs. James Strachan, has passed away. When, at the first meeting that was called to consider the organization of the Womens' Canadian Historical Society in Toronto, Mrs. Strachan signed her name in the little red book, which our modest anticipations thought would be sufficient for our needs, she wrote the date of her birth (1823), saying: "I think I should, because I am the oldest member of your Society." With her has passed away from among us one of the brightest personalities representative of a courteous, refined, and historic past; a busy, helpful, useful, beneficent life, a loving, sympathetic gentlewoman. And in the sudden grief-stricken death of her life-long friend, Mrs. Diana Jarvis, the highest tribute was not wanting to a beautiful life. No page in our local history carries with it a more pathetic record than that of the service in St. James' Cathedral on November 15th, 1900, when the two, who had been "girls together," one the bridesmaid of the other in the sunshine of youth, and united in death, were borne to and placed side by side on the altar steps of the church they loved, and with whose history their lives and historic names had been so intimately interwoven, and the beautiful service for the dead was read for each and both at one and the same hour.

Before closing my report, I would like respectfully to draw your attention to the need of undertaking some definite work which will result in additions to our archives that may be of benefit to future historians: the collection and classifying of old papers, records, local traditions, reminiscences of old settlers, relics of historic interest, photographs or drawings of old houses, which belong to the local history of the past, now being removed to make way for the rapid development of our modern prosperity. The placing of tablets or memorial inscriptions on the sites we may leave to the Canadian Club, who have begun their work so well; but preserving the history of the houses, and some notes of their occupants may be undertaken by your Society. I would suggest the appointment of conveners of sub-committees for the different branches of this work, and, following the example of the Ottawa Historical Society, in establishing a "Question Drawer and Information Bureau," to which items of