

Secretary's Report.

The Provincial Pioneer and Historical Association is rapidly increasing in numbers and influence, and in intelligent, well-directed, unanimous effort. Just a year ago, two new societies were affiliated—Niagara and the Woman's Historical Society of Toronto. At this meeting you will be asked to affiliate another new society—that of the Town and County of Peterborough. The number of affiliated societies, including Peterborough, is at present eleven—York, Peel, Simcoe, Wentworth, Lundy's Lane, Thorold and Beaver Dams, Grenville, Elgin, The Woman's Historical Society of Toronto, Niagara and Peterborough. These, with the exception of Grenville, Elgin and Peterborough, are central, mostly clustering about the "Head of the Lake" and representing regions old in story. But while the most fruitful historic ground is thus represented, there are other grounds in this Ontario of ours that would well repay tillage. There is not a community in our Province that has not its pioneers and its places of legendary interest, and that cannot furnish some tale of heroism, hardship or adventure. How can these rapidly decaying treasures be preserved for the perpetuation in succeeding generations of those most wholesome sentiments—admiration and gratitude?

The work done by affiliated societies during the past year will be set forth in the various reports. The Provincial Association, at the meeting held last September, appointed a committee to obtain a grant from the Legislature as specified in the minutes. On February 15th last your secretary addressed the following letter to Rev. Dr. Parker, one of that committee:—"At the September meeting of the Historical Association of Ontario, a committee consisting of Rev. Canon Bull, yourself, Dr. Scadding, and Mr. J. L. Hughes, was appointed as a delegation to wait on the Ontario Government and ask for financial assistance in carrying on the work of the Association. Rev. Canon Bull is ill, and I have authority from him to ask you if you can take charge of the matter, confer with the other members of the committee, and present the case before the Government.

"I am requested to remind you that the purposes to which the appropriation, if granted, will be applied are mainly two, viz: the publication of local histories, and the erection of a monument to Governor Simcoe, in Queen's Park."

Dr. Parker replied stating that he would, with the other members, present the matter to the Legislature. No report has been received by your secretary from the committee. A grant, however, of \$3,000 (\$1,000 City Council) was made, and the matter will doubtless be reported at this meeting.

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