

now reports cash assets at \$12,330. It has our best wishes for its future prosperity, and we shall always welcome to our *sanctum* any matter which may be published under its auspices. From the *Register* we learn that at a recent meeting of the Society there was exhibited "a curiosity which had been brought into the hall for exhibition, it being a huge rusty iron bar, long enough to extend across a wide door, and having a lock and chain attached. It had been sent in by Mr. J. B. Stearns, of Boston, who had procured it from the site of the old French fortress of Louisbourg, Cape Breton. One of the members made a statement of the circumstances under which it was found, and said that from the known geography of the place, the relic was undoubtedly the inner fastening of what was known as the "Queen's Gate" of that fortress. This fortress was a work of great strength, built by the French to secure the entrance to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Work was begun on it in 1720, and continued till 1745, during which time the outlay amounted to £1,200,000, and it was still incomplete. A considerable share of the material was purchased by the French in New England, and it is quite possible that this bar may have been the work of a Boston blacksmith. In 1745, during the war between England and France, the fortress was captured by an expedition sent out from New-England. By the treaty of peace, it was, however, restored to the French, who held it till 1758, when it was again captured by the English. In 1760 great anxiety was felt by the administration of William Pitt, lest it might again fall into the hands of the French, and, through his influence, orders were given for its destruction. This work was entrusted to Admiral Byron, the grandfather of Lord Byron, who accomplished it after several months' labor, the last blast being fired October 17, 1760. The lock attached to the bar has the bolt in position, showing that the gate was blown up as it stood, with the lock unturned."