

of the members of the Editing Committee; and with such results as to justify the course adopted, in rendering this series strictly a periodical issue of original papers, embodying the printed proceedings of the Institute. This object having been secured, and the present General Editor having expressed his desire to be relieved of duties he has now fulfilled for four years, the Editing Committee have much pleasure in reporting, that the General Editorship has been undertaken by Professor Chapman; whose frequent contributions to the Journal in past years, as well as his high standing in a department of science so important in its practical bearing on the development of the mineral and other economic resources of the Province, render him peculiarly fitted for the responsible duties thus devolved on him.

An unusually large space has been devoted to the department of reviews during the past year; while at the same time they are fewer in number than in former volumes; the object aimed at having been to transfer mere notices of books to the notes, and to give to the department more of the character of review articles. With a larger body of contributors, this section might be extended with great advantage, and the Journal increased in size, and rendered acceptable to a much wider circle of readers; while the opportunity thereby afforded for the discussion of important questions in science and literature could in no degree detract from the legitimate characteristics of such a periodical. The Committee, however, cannot overlook the fact, that a large portion of the materials hitherto contributed to this department have been the work of two or three members, on whom, accordingly, an amount of labour has been imposed, which, though freely rendered, must be felt to be an undue tax on the voluntary services of so small a number, in a society of some hundred members, including many well qualified to share in such labours.

It was the intention of the Committee to have aimed at giving increased interest to the Journal during the past year, by means of illustrations, but a series of disappointments by the artist engaged on the work, involving much trouble and anxiety to the editor, ended in the abandonment of the scheme for the present. The Committee however, have pleasure in calling attention to the beautiful lithograph of the Quigrich, which as a specimen of art, executed in Toronto, cannot but be regarded as a highly satisfactory proof of progress, when it is borne in remembrance that similar illustrations for a former volume had to be procured from New York.

In conclusion, the Committee have to express their earnest hope that the new General Editor may be able to secure such an amount of varied and hearty co-operation, as, while materially lessening his own labours, shall contribute fresh attractions both to the publications and the meetings of the Institute.

Toronto, 3rd December, 1859.

DANIEL WILSON, *Convener*.

On referring to the details given in the Treasurer's Report submitted below, it will be seen that the general funds of the Institute are, upon the whole, in a satisfactory condition. The Building Fund has been slightly increased by the accumulation of interest, but the Council deem it right to call the attention of the Members to the fact, that the subscription list for that *special* purpose still remains uncol-