

terested in geology in Canada volunteered to subscribe toward obtaining a portrait of Mr. Billings. An excellent painting of him is now in the Museum of the Natural History Society of Montreal.

Inasmuch as Billings not only developed a taste for and carried on researches in Geology and Palæontology in Ottawa, it seems particularly appropriate for some such institution or society as our Club to undertake the task of raising a small fund towards perpetuating his memory in our midst, and I now desire to present the case to your mind, with the subscription list open for your kind and generous consideration, to which list a number of names are already attached.

With regard to the second suggestion made, of erecting a memorial tablet and placing it in some conspicuous position in our city, this seems to meet the approval also of a number of persons to whom the subject has been broached. A similar memorial tablet has been erected and placed in a conspicuous outcrop of one of the geological formations of Prague, in Bohemia, in honour of the late Joachim Barrande, the great palæontologist of Central Europe who himself in his lifetime was in communication with Mr. Billings, whom we are seeking to honour for the marvellously large amount of most excellent work which he performed, not only in Canada as a whole, but more especially in Ottawa.

I shall not attempt to give you a biographical notice of the late Mr. Billings, inasmuch as there exist already a number of fairly complete notices of his life history. It will suffice to offer for publication in our Transactions such records of his writings and works which in our opinion are greatly needed by all working palæontologists, and which in our humble judgment ought long ago to have been prepared.

#### THE LATE SIR WILLIAM DAWSON.

I would be remiss of my duty as president of a Club like ours if I did not refer to the loss which science in Canada has so recently sustained in the person of one who during his entire career has taken a most active part in the progress and advancement of geological research in our country. I refer to the late principal of McGill University, Sir William Dawson.

His life was one of unremitting toil in the interests of education, science and religion. Sir William Dawson accomplished