

Society of Quebec, in modest but appropriate terms, its just meed of commendation, for serving to encourage, sustain, and keep alive amongst ourselves, that same spirit which in a more widely extended sphere, had, during the past two hundred years, and with so much benefit to humanity, been cultivated by the Royal Society of Great Britain.

Allusion was made to the cholera in 1832 and 1834, the conflagrations at Quebec in 1845, the ship fever in 1847 and 1857, the Fenian raids of 1866 and 1870, the astronomical expedition under Captain Ashe, and the late march to the Red River Settlement accomplished by our troops and volunteers so successfully, in spite of extraordinary obstacles, without the loss of a man through disease, intemperance, or any other preventible cause; with all these, the direct or indirect connection of the Society, through its members, in a beneficial manner, was made clear.

In the course of his remarks the President alluded to the great changes which had occurred in men's views respecting matters affecting their social comfort and happiness, owing to the diffusion of useful knowledge and the now more prevalent recourse to the dictates of common sense. This, in part, he happily illustrated by referring to the past history of royal matrimonial alliances, and to the contemplated marriage of a young British nobleman with a daughter of Queen Victoria.

The discourse, which was enlivened by occasional quotations from the poets, was listened to throughout with marked attention.

At the close of the address, the chairman, Captain Ashe, made a few remarks, and took occasion to advert to the astronomical expedition of which the President had made mention. He also invited discussion and questions upon any of the topics which had been introduced in the address, setting the example himself by making an inquiry about the real nature of the plague of 1666. Dr. Anderson having replied, the Rev. Dr. Cook came forward and expressed his regret that he had not been present during the whole of the address, having been delayed by his official duties at a wedding celebrated the same evening. Dr. Cook's observations appeared to afford great pleasure, and much amusement was occasioned by his stating that he had just met a gentleman who had lately, (in Canada, we understood him to say) been present at seventeen marriages, which all took place at once, owing to a silly rumor that all unmarried young men were about to be summoned to the field in consequence of a war which had suddenly broken out between Great Britain and the United States.

A motion was made by Dr. Miles, seconded by H. S. Scott, Esq., for a vote of thanks to Dr. Anderson, for his able, instructive and interesting address. This was passed unanimously.

The chairman announced that the next assembly would take place on Wednesday evening, the 23rd instant, when a paper would be read by the Rev. James Douglas. The audience then dispersed, evidently much gratified by the incidents of one of the most instructive and pleasant inaugural meetings of the Quebec Literary and Historical Society which it has ever been our lot to attend.

We take this opportunity of alluding to the fact that Dr. Anderson's presidency has hitherto been eminently successful. If it has proved so in a higher degree than that of some of his distinguished predecessors, it is because he has not looked upon his office as one of a merely or chiefly honorary nature, having at heart the substantial practical objects of the Society. Let us hope that he and his co-adjutors, the Vice-Presidents and Council, will find, during the coming winter, an encouraging appreciation, on the part of the community, of their endeavours to promote the fulfilment of the Society's proper functions; for the public at large is invited to attend these evening readings and meetings, free of charge, except on occasions when a paid lecturer's services are employed.—*Quebec Mercury*.

Want of space this month excludes acknowledgement of our usual exchanges.

### The Province of Quebec and European Emigration.

This is a very useful pamphlet, (Published by order of the Government of Quebec) containing much information valuable to intending emigrants regarding the Province of Quebec. The number of acres available for the settlement in each of the different districts, the rate per acre at which the public lands may be bought, and the best mode which the emigrant can adopt when first taking up his abode in the Province, are all clearly stated. The pamphlet likewise contains a great deal of interesting matter regarding the social and public institutions of Quebec. The chapter relating to education is, of course, peculiarly interesting to us. It appears there are in the Province 3,468 primary schools, in which elementary education is given to 173,294 pupils, and 227 secondary and model schools, attended by 33,423 pupils. The annual cost of these schools is 114,952 dollars from the public funds, and 728,494 dollars from local sources. But local sources do not mean the same in Quebec as in Ireland. There is an education rate imposed on all property in each school district, and in addition, every father of a family pays a certain monthly sum for each of his children between 7 and 14 years of age, whether they attend school or not. Besides the elementary and model schools, there are ample facilities for superior education in lyceums, colleges, special schools, and universities. Altogether education seems to be in a flourishing condition in the Province of Quebec. The arrangements for promoting and supervising the educational institutions of the Province are excellent, and seem to be perfectly satisfactory to the inhabitants. Besides a central board, there are municipal boards throughout the country, which manage the affairs of the schools in their respective localities. Teachers are trained in institutions provided for the purpose, and no one is allowed to teach in schools aided by the government who has not obtained a diploma from one of these institutions, or who has not been approved of by a board of examiners appointed by the lieutenant-governor. We can safely recommend this pamphlet to all wishing to acquire information relating to the Province of Quebec.—*Irish Teacher's Journal, Dublin*.

### OBITUARY.

#### DEATH OF CHANCELLOR BLAKE.

We extract the following from a lengthy obituary in the *Weekly Globe* (Toronto) of the 18th inst:

The Honourable William Hume Blake, one of the most distinguished Jurists of Upper Canada, died yesterday, at the residence of his son-in-law, in this city.

Chancellor Blake was born at Kiltegan, in the County of Wicklow, Ireland, on the 10th March, 1809. He was the second son of the Rev. Dominick Edward Blake, Rector of Kiltegan and of Loughbrickland and Rural Dean.

Chancellor Blake was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, where he took honours. He studied surgery for some time under Sir Philip Crampton, and afterwards studied for the Church. In 1832, he married his cousin Catherine Hume, grand-daughter of William Hume, of Humewood, M.P. for Wicklow.

Immediately after his marriage, Mr. Blake emigrated to Canada where his brother the late Rev. D. E. Blake, (Rector of Adelaide and afterwards of Thornhill) his brother-in-law, the Rev. C. C. Brough (Archdeacon of London) his brother-in-law, the late Rev. Mr. Flood (Rector of Delaware) and other members of the family, also settled. His first residence was on a farm in the Township of Adelaide, then in "the backwoods;" but in 1834 he removed to Toronto, and commenced his studies for the Bar under the late Mr. Washburn.

Mr. Blake was called to the Bar in the year 1838, and from the first took up a commanding position as an Advocate in the Law and Equity Courts. His tall, handsome person and fine open face, his felicitous language and bold manly utterance gained him at once the full attention of Court and Jury; and his vigorous grasp of the whole case under discussion, his acute, logical,