

# OPENING ADDRESS

DELIVERED BY

**JAMES STEVENSON, PRESIDENT,**

WEDNESDAY, 19TH DECEMBER, 1877,

TO THE MEMBERS OF

**The Literary and Historical Society of Quebec.**

—§—

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to the first meeting of the lecture season, and I hope the proceedings of the evening may not prove altogether uninteresting.

We shall have the pleasure of listening to a lecture by one of our associate members, Mr. Turcotte, recalling the annals of this Society. The purposes for which this Society was formed are clearly set forth in its Royal Charter: "The prosecution of researches into the early history of Canada; the recovering, procuring, and publishing interesting documents and useful information as to the natural, civil, and literary history of British North America, and for the advancement of the arts and sciences, from which public benefit may be expected."

Mr. Benjamin Sult, of Ottawa, is at present engaged in preparing for the press, a history of "L'Institut Canadien" of Ottawa; and Mr. Turcotte, animated by a similar spirit, has prepared a short history of our own Society, which was established long before the city of Ottawa had any existence, or was even known as a place under its primitive patronymic of "By-town."\*

---

\* After the late Colonel By, Royal Engineers.