



The "Proceedings of the Royal Colonial Institute" for the years 1888-9 contain a good deal that is of interest to Canadian readers. This is the twentieth volume of the series—the first having made its appearance at the close of the Institute's opening year. As may be recalled, the "coming of age" of the Royal Colonial Institute" was commemorated in March last by an anniversary banquet, at which H. R. H. the Prince of Wales presided. A short account of what took place on that occasion was published in this journal, which, with an article from the *Toronto Globe*, represents the opinion of Canada as to the work of the Institute, in the "Comments in Home and Colonial Papers" reproduced in the "Proceedings." The Institute began its existence on the 26th of June, 1868, at a meeting presided over by a nobleman whose relations with Canada have long been unusually close and friendly. Viscount Bury, who resided in Canada from 1849 to 1855, married in the latter year the daughter of Sir Allan McNab, formerly Prime Minister of the United Provinces, and has ever since taken an earnest interest in the affairs of this country. At that preliminary meeting it was resolved to form a society that would tend to promote ultimate and friendly intercourse between the mother country and the colonies and other dependencies of the Crown; to make trustworthy information regarding the colonies and India accessible to residents of the United Kingdom, and to provide a place of meeting for persons visiting England on colonial business. The society was also to furnish opportunities for the reading of papers and for discussions on subjects concerning Greater Britain, and to "undertake scientific, literary and statistical investigations in connection with the British Empire." In June, 1869, the society assumed the name by which it has become so well and favourably known throughout the Empire. In 1871, Viscount Bury was succeeded in the presidency by the Duke of Manchester, on whose retirement, in 1878, the Prince of Wales was pleased to accept that office. In 1882 the Queen granted the Institute a Royal Charter of Incorporation, with perpetual succession and a common seal—in token of Her Majesty's satisfaction at the manner in which it had carried out the objects for which it had been founded. The first honorary secretary was Mr. A. R. Roche, who retired in 1871, and was succeeded by Mr. C. W. Eddy, on whose lamented death Mr. (now Sir) Frederick Young undertook the important duties, which he discharged with credit to himself and advantage to the society. From 1874 to 1881 he was assisted by Mr. F. P. Labilliere. In the latter year Mr. J. S. O'Halloran (formerly of the South Australian Civil Service) was appointed salaried assistant secretary; in 1883 he became, and still continues, secretary. Until shortly before his death, in 1888, Sir William Sargeant, K.C.M.G., held the position of honorary treasurer. His place is now filled by Capt. M. F. Ommoney, C.M.G. The growth of the Institute is shown by the increase of the membership from 174 in 1869 to 3,221 in 1888. Of these 1,212 are Resident, 2,009 non-Resident, Fellows; 8 are Honorary and 562 are Life Fellows. That the Institute serves as a band of union between the mother country and the colonies and between colony and colony has long been recognized. In diffusing useful knowledge on every subject bearing directly or indirectly on colonial interests, the Institute has put all the colonies under obligations. The twenty volumes of published Reports constitute a sort of colonial encyclopædia which the inquirer will rarely consult in vain. From island-continents like Australia, and half-continents like Canada, to small dependencies like Heligoland or the Falkland Islands, there is not a square league waved over by the British flag that has not due attention in these pregnant volumes. And in every instance the information is imparted at first hand and from trustworthy sources. Indeed, in many cases, the subjects chosen for papers were subjects to which the authors had devoted the best years of a life-time and on which they had come to be regarded as experts. If the topic is treated at all one-sidedly, the essayist is sure to hear another view of it in the course of the ensuing discussion, which is always printed along with the papers. Asia, Africa and Oceania as well as Europe and America are thus presented to the reader from many different points of view, though always with special reference to their connection with Great Britain. India, Ceylon, the Straits Settlements, Borneo, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji, South Africa, the Boer States, Natal, Zululand, Sierra Leone, Gambia, the Falkland Isles, Guiana, the West Indies, Newfoundland, and, last but not least, the Dominion, are dealt with in these Reports with a fulness and clearness to be met with in no other source of information. As for our own land, hardly a year has elapsed since the foundation of the Institute in which it has not come prominently forward and always under able and trustworthy auspices. Mr. Adam Crookes, Q.C.; Sir William Dawson, Mr. W. F. Lynn, Mr. R. Grant Haliburton, Dr. J. G. Bourinot, Sir Daniel Wilson, Lord Dufferin, Viscount Bury, the Rev. Donald Fraser, D.D.; Mr. Sandford Fleming, C.E., C.M.G.; Mr. Caldwell Ashworth, Sir A. T. Galt, G.C.M.G.; the late Dr. Maclean, Bishop of Saskatchewan; the Marquis of Lorne, Mr. Alexander Begg, General Sir J. Henry Lefroy, Mr. Justice Pinsent, and Mr. T. G. Colmer, C.M.G., have,

in successive years, treated of some features of interest of Canada as a whole, or of one or other of its provinces and territories. The last volume is no exception to the rule. It is, for reasons already indicated, a volume of exceptional interest, containing, as it does, a historic sketch of the Institute, and a mass of valuable information relating to the stages of its progress and the persons by whose efforts it has most profited. It also contains, as frontispiece, a fine illustration of the Institute Building. The papers read during the year were as follows: "South Africa as a Health Resort," by Dr. Syme Thompson; "Colonization," by William Gisborne, Esq.; "British West Africa and the Trade of the Interior," by H. H. Johnston, Esq.; "Western Australia: its Present and Future," by A. P. Hensman, Esq.; "Australian Public Finance," by William Westgarth, Esq.; "Canadian Lands and their Development," by Henry F. Moore, Esq.; "Tasmania: its Resources and Prospects," by E. N. C. Braddon, Esq.; and "The Native Princes of India and their Relations with the British Government," by Sir Lepel Griffin, K.C.S.I. Every one of these papers evoked an interesting and instructive discussion. The paper and discussion on Western Australia had a peculiar interest in view of the subsequent debate in Parliament as to the disposal of its vast area. Sir Lepel Griffin's paper was also of importance in connection with Russian aspirations and certain recent movements among the natives of British India. The paper contained some revelations that could hardly be welcome to patriotic Englishmen, but if it result in even partially removing the strange apathy that prevails in the United Kingdom, and even among public men, as far as India is concerned, it will not have been read or published in vain. Mr. Gisborne's paper on colonization was of general interest to colonists, though, as the essayist's experience had been gained mainly in Australasia, he devoted most attention to that part of the world. Canadians will naturally be most concerned in Mr. Moore's paper on the development of Canadian lands. Mr. Moore, who visited the Dominion in company with Prof. Fream, to whose writings we had occasion not long since to refer, has dealt ably with his subject, and the discussion that followed his paper was of more than ordinary interest. We hope to take another occasion to return to it. In closing this notice we would direct attention to the comparative paucity of Canadian names on the list of the Institute's membership. The Dominion is not, indeed, so well represented as some colonies of certainly no greater, if of equal importance. This is all the more noteworthy when it is considered that, as we have shown, Canada has received from the Institute its full share of attention. All particulars as to the conditions and privileges of membership may be obtained from any of the honorary corresponding secretaries: Mr. C. J. Campbell, Toronto; the Very Rev. Principal Grant, Kingston; Dr. Ernest B. C. Hannington, Victoria, B.C.; Mr. Thomas Robinson, Winnipeg; Dr. George Stewart, Quebec; or Mr. Andrew Robertson, Montreal; or by writing to the Secretary of the Institute, Mr. T. S. O'Halloran, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.

We have received from the publishers, Messrs. C. O. Beauchemin et Fils, a copy of a work with which our readers are not altogether unacquainted and which was well worthy of the handsome dress in which it makes its appearance before the public. We mean the "Discours prononcé lors de l'Inauguration du Monument Cartier-Beubreuf, le 24 Juin, 1889," par M. Chauveau, Commandeur de l'Ordre de Pie IX., Chevalier de l'Ordre de Saint-Grégoire, Officier de l'Instruction Publique de France, etc., etc. As a fitting appendix to his memorable speech, the author has comprised between the same covers his fine poem entitled "Donnacona," originally published in 1861 in the now rare *Soirées Canadiennes*. Mr. Chauveau prefaces his "Discours" with some appropriate remarks on the occasion which called it forth. In suitable language he describes the imposing ceremony which preceded its delivery—the vast concourse on the historic ground where Cartier once stood contemplating his wooden cross and filled with thoughts which are at least suggested by his own quaint and candid record. "Le troisième jour de Mai," that record runs, "jour et feste de Sainte-Croix, pour la solennité et feste, le capitaine fist planter une belle croix de la hauteur d'environ trente-cinq pieds de longueur, sous le croizillon de laquelle il y avoit un écusson en bosse des armes de France: et sur icelui estoit écrit en lettres antiques: FRANCISCUS PRIMUS, DEI GRATIA FRANCORUM REX, REGNAT. Et celui jour environ midi, vinrent, plusieurs gens de Stadaconé tant hommes, femmes qu'enfans, qui nous dirent que leur Seigneur Donnacona, Taiguragny, Domagaya, et autres qui estoient en sa compagnie, venoient: de quoi fumes joyeux, espérans nous en saisir, lesquels vinrent environ deux heures après midi." Then follows the story of the kidnapping of "Seigneur Donnacona," of the wail of his bereaved people and the plaintive cry of the women from the shore: "Agouhanna! Agouhanna!"—all which Mr. Chauveau has effectively embodied in his poem. Vain were presentiments and warnings. The God of the strangers is stronger than the deity that Donnacona and his subjects worshipped:

Ainsi parlait le roi dans son âme ingénue:
Et lui-même bientôt sur la flotte inconnue,
Il partait entraîné.
Ses femmes, ses sujets hurlèrent sur la rive
Criant Agouhanna! De leur clameur plaintive
Cartier fut étonné.

Et prenant en pitié leur bruyante infortune,
Le marin leur promit qu'à la douzième lune
Ils reverraient leur roi.
Des colliers d'essurgin scellèrent la promesse:
Cartier les accepta; puis ils firent liesse,
Car il jura sa foi.

Douze lunes et vingt, et bien plus se passèrent:
Cinq hivers, cinq étés lentement s'écoulèrent:
Le chef ne revint pas.
L'étranger, de retour au sein de sa bourgade,
Du roi que chérissait la naïve peuplade
Raconta le trépas.

Then follows the appeal to "Old Stadaconé," which closes the poem. The forests had disappeared, and the Quebec of to-day is no longer the scene which Cartier visited. But the spirit of the past broods over it; we may even fancy Donnacona and his companions returning "in the stilly night" to the place that once knew them and may even, in imagination, hear the click of their ornaments as they move through the darkness.

Puis ce sont dans les airs mille clameurs joyeuses,
Des voix chantent en chœur sur nos rives heureuses,
Comme un long hosanna,
Et l'on voit voltiger des spectres diaphanes
Et l'écho, sur les monts, dans les bois, les savannes,
Répète: Agouhanna!



AGENT: Is your new house a Queen Anne? Owner: Yes; Queen Anne in front and Mary Anne in the rear.

THE CAT (on the outside of the milk can): You seem to be enjoying yourself in there. The fish: Yes, after a fashion. But what makes the water this whitish colour?

CITY business man: At last I am rich enough to retire from business. Friend: What are you going to do? I am going to buy the old farm that I ran away from and live on it.

DAN APPLICATION.—Parson White: How'd yo' like de sermon on "Charity" dis mornin', deacon? Deacon Hard-scrapple: Dat's was 'r werry touchin' sarmon, parson. Kin yo' lend me 'r dollar?

TONGUE-TWISTING SENTENCE.—Repeat the following couplet correctly and rapidly three times running—"The swan swam over the river; swim, swan, swim. The swan swam back again; well swum, swan!"

PERSISTENT SUITOR: Miss Adelaide, won't you ride up with me going back? Miss Adelaide (coolly): Oh, thanks, I've promised to go back in the donkey cart with Ethel. Persistent suitor: Oh, but you won't have me in the donkey's cart. Miss Adelaide: N-o, only a very able substitute.

ALL FORGIVEN.—Fanny: Why, Emma, how cordially you shook hands with Miss Frizhair at the party last night. I thought you were deadly enemies. Emma: Oh, that is all past. I have forgiven her everything, she has grown so plain looking.

"I WANT to get a good hammock," said the customer to the salesman. "Strong enough to hold two, I suppose?" suggested the salesman, slyly. "No, sir," said the customer, with some show of resentment. "No, sir; I've been married for more than three years."

GROCER (who has lately joined the militia, practising in shop): Right, left, right, left. Four paces to the rear, march! (falls down trap-door into the cellar). Grocer's wife (anxiously): Oh, Jim, are you hurt? Grocer (savagely, but with dignity): Go away, woman; what do you know about war?

DIFFICULT TO TELL.—Scene, the garden of a country villa—Passerby (at the gate): Gardener, what is the matter up at the house—that terrible screeching? Gardener (putting his hand up to his ear to listen): I can't make out exactly. Either the lady is practising her singing or some vile animal has got into the hen house.

GENTLY CORRECTED.—Miss Chatty Lafite (of Chicago, at the seaside): There goes a crab. What a strange creature it is! Don't you think so, Miss Somerset? Miss Minerva Somerset (of Boston): It is passing strange, yes. Miss Chatty Lafite: You mean it is passing strangely, no doubt. That's one on you, Miss Somerset.

WILLIE WAS QUITE RIGHT.—Mrs. Dumpsey: For shame, Willie! You've been fighting again. Your clothes are torn and your face is scratched. Dear me, what a trial you are! I wish you were a girl—girls don't fight. Willie Dumpsey: Yes, ma, but don't you think it's better to have a good square fight and get all the mad out of you, than to carry it around, the way girls do for months?

BOY'S COMPOSITION ON "THE HORSE."—"The horse is the most useful animal in the world. So is the cow. I once had thirteen ducks and two was drakes and a skunk killed one; he smelt orful. I know a boy which had seven chickens, but his father would not let him keep them, and so he got mad and so he bored a hole in his mother's washtub. I wish I had a horse—a horse weighs a 1,000 pounds, and has a leg on each corner."

WHAT SHE WAS THINKING.—Young Boston wife (at meat stall): I really don't know what to get for dinner to-day. Butcher: Why not try some of these mutton chops? Good, healthy food; 18 cents a pound. Young Boston wife (puts hand to forehead): Let me see Butcher: What—the chops? Here they are. Young Boston wife: No I was thinking. Butcher: About the price? Young Boston wife: No; I was thinking whether you ought not to have said wholesome instead of healthy.