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OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO, 1871.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO:

Gentlemen.—It is with no ordinary feelings of pleasure and satisfaction that I offer you my congratulations upon the continued success and prosperity of the Entomological Society of Ontario. We are now met together to hold our *first* Annual Meeting under our Act of Incorporation, and as a public Society duly recognized by the Government of the Province, and closely associated with the Agricultural and Arts Association of Ontario, who are now holding their great Annual Exhibition in this city of Kingston. As we have now attained to a position so much superior to anything we anticipated a few years ago, it may not be amiss to give a brief account of the origin and progress of the Society, and of the work it has been able to accomplish.

The origination of the Society may be traced to the publication in the number of the *Canadian Naturalist and Geologist* for June, 1862, of a "List of Entomologists in Canada," prepared by Mr. Saunders of London, Ont., and myself. As this List contained the names of thirty-six persons interested in the collection and study of Insects, it was resolved to hold a meeting and endeavour to form a Society or Club of those engaged in this branch of Natural Science. In the following September, accordingly, ten gentlemen assembled at the residence of Prof. Croft in Toronto, and decided upon the formation of an Entomological Society whose objects should be (1) the preparation of as complete a collection as possible of Canadian Insects, to be kept in some central place for general information and reference; (2) the charge of a depository of duplicate specimens contributed by Entomologists for distribution amongst its members; and (3) the holding of meetings from time to time for mutual information and the advancement of the science throughout the country at large. As so few were present at this meeting, no definite organization was attempted at the time, but the matter was laid over until the following spring.