

been held by the society, and which have been so successful in the past as to give them a foremost place among the social functions of the city. Possibly in no other place in Canada does the St. Andrew's Society occupy such a pre-eminent position among its sister institutions as in Toronto. Not only is it among the oldest societies in the city, but it has done sufficient in the past, both in its wide philanthropic work and in its effects upon the social life of our citizens, to establish on a firm basis its claim to be regarded as among the most influential forces in the community. It is primarily a benevolent institution. It has been carried on with one distinct object in view, above all others, and that has been the amelioration of the condition of its Scotch fellow-citizens, and the advancement and welfare of the people. It has accomplished in the years of its existence more, perhaps, than any institution of its kind in the Dominion; exercising a judicious and kindly charity, frowning upon anything that might approach professional pauperism, and yet with an open ear at all times to the cry of the hungry or the pleadings of the indigent. Broad minded in spirit, sympathetic in heart, benevolent in action, the St. Andrew's Society has gained for itself a name which it may well carry proudly as the epitome of Christian philanthropic effort.

Nor is its record in this respect its only claim to distinction. The honor roll of St. Andrews Society might almost be called the honor roll of Toronto, for among the names inscribed upon it are many which are deeply woven into the history of our city. The ranks are fast thinning of those who can recall, even by hearsay, the meeting which was held in the old district school-house on a bright May evening in 1836, when it was decided to form a society "for the relief of destitute Scotch immigrants," but the names of Hon. William Allan, Alexander Wood, William Proudfoot, Dr. Walter Telfer, Isaac Buchanan, John Ewart, Grant Powell, and others who were iden-