

secure for the Society the sympathy and co-operation of so many distinguished Celts and scholars. It has to be frankly admitted, that as so many influential gentlemen have, in a manner which deserves to be gratefully mentioned, consented to become members of the Society, there devolves on the Society an additional obligation to be energetic, to perform work which will be useful and which can command respect, and thus to furnish to the gentlemen in question no cause whatever to regret that they became members of the Society.

Several papers have been already contributed to the Society regarding the settlement of Celts in various portions of the Dominion. Four of those papers are to be found in this volume. They cannot fail, it is believed, to be very interesting and acceptable to the members of the Society. The intention is, as the facilities of the Society increase, to gather all the information that is still obtainable respecting the early presence and doings of the Celts, in all the Celtic settlements from Cape Breton to Vancouver Island. The present volume contains a few papers which have been selected from the several papers that are in the possession of the Society. In addition to the four instructive papers to which reference has been made, it will be seen, that there are two papers by Celtic scholars whose home is across the Atlantic. One of those scholars is lending material assistance to the study of Manx Literature; the other finds leisure, as his paper testifies, in the midst of onerous duties, to devote great attention to Gaelic and to the Ethnology of the Gael.

As this volume has the rare honour of being the first volume of a literary character that has hitherto been issued by any Celtic Society in Canada, it must be gratifying to the members of the Society, that in the volume there is contained a very important paper, by Professor Campbell, "*on the Monumental Evidence of an Iberian Population of the British Islands.*" Peculiar satisfaction will, doubtless, be felt, that the same learned member of the Society has been successful, at so great a distance from the ancestral home of Celtic learning, in throwing a flood of light on the *vezata quaestio* as to what the real meaning of the Etruscan Inscriptions is, and in adducing powerful evidence to show, that the language of the Umbrian Inscriptions is Gaelic; and that, accordingly, they contain the oldest specimen of Gaelic of which there is any knowledge.