

TORONTO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

COURSE OF LECTURES

TO BE DELIVERED

IN THE ST. LAWRENCE HALL,

DURING THE WINTER OF 1856-7.

FOUR LECTURES

ON "PRIMITIVE SOURCES OF HISTORICAL TRUTH,"

BY DR. DANIEL WILSON,

PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND ENGLISH LITERATURE, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, TORONTO.

1856.—Friday, Nov. 21. 1st Lecture, "Unwritten History."

The Science of Antiquities, or Archæology.—Historical Memorials of the Past.—Traces of an Ancient British History prior to all Written Records.—Evidences of the Ancient Briton's knowledge of the Arts.—His Sepulchral Rites and Primitive Monuments prior to the Christian Era.—Traces of American History prior to its discovery by Columbus.—Connection between the Primitive Antiquities of the Old and New World.

Nov. 28.—2nd Lecture, "The Historical Races."

Definition and Uses of the Science of Ethnology.—Unity and Variety in the Human Family.—The Ancient Races of Mankind.—The Memorials of Unhistoric Races, and Evidences of their Extinction.—The Ancient Miners and Mound-builders of America.—The Entrance of the Celtic and Germanic Races into Europe.—The Intellectual Influences of each.—Results of the Admixture and Collision of Races.

Dec. 5.—3rd Lecture, "The Historical Nations."

The Dawn of Civilisation.—The Special Characteristics of Nations.—The Development of Intellectual Progress by a succession of Historical Nations.—The Origin of Colonisation and Commerce; of Agriculture, Arts, and Letters.—The World's Historic Past, Present, and Future.

Dec. 12.—4th Lecture, "Historical Lands."

Influence of Physical Geography on National Character and History.—Isolation, Individuality, and Unity among the Nations.—Contrasting Elements of Ancient and Modern History.—The Old and New Worlds.—The Historical and Political Influences of the Arts of Civilisation.—The Future of Canada.

[TURN OVER.]