

ferring a year later to the general results of the meeting Sir William Dawson was able to express a high degree of satisfaction at what had so far been accomplished. "We have occasion," he said, "to congratulate ourselves on the reception which our inaugural meeting met with at the hands of the public and the newspaper press. Everywhere the institution of the Society was recognized as wise and beneficial, and if any doubts were expressed with reference to it, they were based not on hostility to the Society, but on a very natural diffidence as to the capacity of Canada, in its present state of development, to sustain a body comparable with the great national societies of other countries. The amount of original work produced at our first meeting was evidently an agreeable surprise to many; and while there was some friendly criticism by which we may hope to profit, on the whole our debut was regarded with that feeling at once kindly, considerate and patriotic which becomes all true Canadians in witnessing any effort, however feeble, to sustain and exalt the greatness of our country."

Meanwhile the Society had obtained the recognition of the Queen and of the Canadian Parliament. A letter from Lord Kimberley, Secretary of State for the Colonies, dated the 22nd of August, 1882, to the Marquis of Lorne, gave the pleasing information that Her Majesty had graciously permitted the Society to be styled "The Royal Society of Canada." On the 1st of March, 1883, a Bill to incorporate the Society was introduced in the House of Commons by Mr. Tassé. It was read a second time on the 19th of the same month, and on the 6th of April it was considered in committee, read a third time and passed. It received the royal assent on the 25th of May.

Rule 11, regarding the affiliation of local literary and scientific societies throughout the Dominion, has proved most fruitful in concentrating and developing the intellectual efforts of all the provinces of the Dominion. In