

likely to have possessed very accurate instruments; but such as it was, in the absence of any better statistics of temperature and other elements affecting the weather, it would be at least curious, if not very valuable, could it only be discovered; but after full inquiry I have been unable to ascertain what has been the fate of this journal.

When he died, in 1837, he left the most of his property to religious and benevolent institutions. I will let Dr. Wilkie tell how he was led to do so:—"It has been seen throughout the course of this narrative that his mind was eminently sociable. Being at the same time of a strongly benevolent cast, his sociability gave rise finally, or at least greatly contributed, to two most excellent institutions—the Natural History Society and the Montreal General Hospital. His practice of rambling in the fields in quest of objects suitable for the study of natural history has been already noticed. His attractive conversation naturally drew to his society others who possessed similar tastes, particularly his two brethren in the church, and some of other professions. One gentleman especially, of highly scientific attainments, supposed to be A. Skakel, a teacher in this city, assisted to give accuracy and order to their observations. A considerable collection of natural objects was, in consequence, formed; a place was found necessary for their reception, the assistance of others was solicited and obtained, and out of these humble endeavours arose 'The Natural History Society' of Montreal."

In consequence probably of his connection with the origin of this institution, and certainly from his devotedness to the cause of knowledge and truth, he left a munificent bequest for the endowment of a lectureship in furtherance of its objects.

His sympathetic nature and public spirit seem to have had much to do also with originating the Montreal General Hospital. Here is what the memoir says on this point:—"He always considered the first suggestion of the Montreal General Hospital as due to himself. "The first idea of it," he said, "was suggested by his servant falling sick of an infectious fever. She had no friends in the city. He could not turn her out of doors. He was apprehensive for his own family. He thought how advantageous it would be for the patient, how satisfactory to his own mind, if there was an hospital to which she could be sent, where she would receive the necessary attention and care, while his family would run no risk of infection. Others might be in