

which the natural formation and the mineral deposits of Canada offer to the student. The results of their researches have attracted the attention of the world of Science in Europe, and brought many of them both fame and distinctions. In general literature also Canadians have made marked progress of late years. The French Canadians who possess an exceedingly interesting history have produced not a few poets of merit, one of whom not long since won the Monthyon prize at the Institute of France. English Canada has given birth to several writers whose historical and constitutional works are of undoubted value. The press of Canada is conducted with signal ability and energy, though the party papers sometimes display an amount of bitterness which weakens their influence with the intelligence of the community. The large number of pamphlets and works on Canadian subjects that are issued from year to year clearly shows the stimulus that has been given to mental activity by the larger field of thought that the union of the Canadian provinces has opened up to students and thinking men. Canada has hitherto possessed only one large Library — that belonging to the Parliament of Ottawa — which is housed in a building remarkable for its architectural beauty. All the leading educational institutions, the law societies, and scientific associations have their special libraries, but it is only now that an effort is being made to establish free libraries in the principal cities and towns. The province of Ontario has placed on its Statute book a law which enables every municipality to tax itself for the support of such an institution and already the city of Toronto possesses a library which promises to be extremely valuable. The Art Schools which now exist in several cities owe their origin to the exertions of Her Royal Highness the Princess Louise and the Marquess of Lorne. The Royal Society of Canada which comprises the leading scientific and literary men of the Dominion, something on the basis of the French Institute, was founded by the nobleman, just named, who, above all previous Governors-General, endeavoured to encourage a taste for science and literature in the country in whose future he takes so deep an interest. The soil of Canada is still new, and we cannot yet expect the rich fruition of the old countries of Europe where every inch of ground has its traditions and associations to evoke the genius of history, poetry and romance. The Canadian people, however, inheriting as they do the mental characteristics of the two great nations, which have produced those literary treasures from which the world is every day drawing inspiration are not likely to prove false to their ancestry, but must