

The Victoria schooner Theresa has left for the black cod banks off Queen Charlotte Islands. It took along white fishermen, who fish from the schooner with trawls, instead of relying upon the Indians, who will only venture out in fine weather, and even in rainy days will not fish. Though it is late in the season, it is thought the schooner will fill her tanks and make a quicker trip than before.

For the Mayor, Sir Donald Smith requested the Governor-General to give his name to the new park at Vancouver. The gracious reply of His Excellency is as follows :

CITADEL, QUEBEC, September 1, 1888.

DEAR SIR DONALD SMITH,—I am much obliged for your communication of the 30th ult., and need hardly say what pleasure it gives me to accede to your proposal—that the new public park at Vancouver should be named the "Stanley Park" after me. I hope that ere long I may have an opportunity of paying a visit to that city, which promises to become one of the most important in the Dominion.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

STANLEY OF PRESTON.

Sir Donald A. Smith, K.C.M.G.

LUNDY'S LANE.

The following valuable notes, being too lengthy and numerous for embodiment into our Historical Column, are here given, with credit to that painstaking and well-made weekly, the *Orillia Packet* :

A meeting of the Lundy's Lane Historical Society was held recently at Drummondville, when about twenty members were present. The proceedings were most interesting. Four classes of members of the society were adopted—resident, corresponding, honorary and life members. A member reported that very shortly two drums used at the battle of Lundy's Lane would be placed in his possession for the benefit of the society. Other relics were also spoken of. Two members gave an interesting account of a visit to Lundy's Lane thirty-two years ago by a United States military fraternity, together with Gen. Scott, of 1814 fame, bearing the name of "Bucktails," on account of wearing buckskin trousers. Gen. Scott, on the occasion of his visit, was very cheerful, and spoke of his wound at Lundy's Lane battle, and that he lay for some time at a spot where Whybra's forge now stands on the rising hill. It was then recounted how the American forces withdrew toward Street's mills and Chippawa; so did Gen. Drummond, a short distance only, towards the north, very naturally, but held possession of the battle-ground, and very early next morning removed the British and American cannon to Queenston. On the same visit, thirty-two years ago, there was a friendly interchange of historic accounts, and testing the light soil where two piles of rails had been placed for burning many remains which could not otherwise be disposed of.

The president reported that other historic societies had lately been organized in Canada. In the Province of Quebec, and other maritime provinces, there is a growing interest in the study of Canadian history. If our schools and colleges in Ontario and Quebec do not encourage the study of history, societies must be formed that will do so. It is a singular fact that there is only one headstone in memory of any of the British officers who fell at Lundy's Lane battle, July 25th, 1814. It is in memory of Lieut. William Hemphill, of the Royals, who fell on the night of the battle. The headstones which mark other graves of officers indicate other engagements, as : Lieut.-Col. Gordon and Capt. Torrens, of the Royals, who were killed at Fort Erie; Robert Dossie Patteson, captain in the 7th Regiment of Infantry, Royal, 1st, Warwickshire, who also fell at Fort Erie, 17th September, 1814; Lieut.-Col. Hon. Cecil Bishopp, 1st Foot Guards, and Inspecting Field Officer in Upper Canada, who died 16th July, 1813, in consequence of a wound received by a stray shot while returning in a small boat after the brilliant capture of Black Rock, Buffalo, 11th July. Besides these graves in Lundy's Lane cemetery, there are also those of Col. Delater and Major Leonard, who lived a few years afterward, and

were interred there. Capt. Patteson's monument is of massive Scotch granite, with a marble tablet; it is costly and durable. The other memorials require attention and repairs. The graves and headstones of Capt. James Secord (militia) and of his wife, Laura Secord, the heroine of June 24th, 1813, are much neglected, and indicate the necessity of some worthy improvements. They died at Chippawa, but lie mid hundreds of others equally meritorious, whose graves are unmarked and unknown, in the same cemetery. The president announced that Rev. Mr. Fessenden, of Chippawa, has agreed to give a lecture in October on the "United Empire Loyalists," on behalf of this society, and E. Cruickshank, of Fort Erie, on the battle of Lundy's Lane, in November.

The corresponding secretary, Rev. Canon Houston, was requested to ask the Minister of Militia for a list of the officers and men engaged in the battle of Lundy's Lane, and also to correspond with the Horse Guards for a similar list of the regular troops. In Christ churchyard, Omeamee, the remains of Ensign Hancock, who carried the King's colours of one of the regiments at Lundy's Lane, are interred, and we regret to say the headstone is fallen, if not broken. It should be restored by the parish, in which he resided many years. An uncle of Mr. A. G. Robinson, C.E., Orillia, the late Major "Bill" Robinson, of the 8th King's Regiment, was struck in the mouth by two buckshot at this battle. He was presented with a valuable sword by the Canadian Government at the close of the war, for his services in drilling the militia, and returned to the old country, where he died. It is to be regretted that no action has yet been taken upon the suggestion of Mr. J. M. Hunter, of Barrie, to form a historical society for the County of Simcoe. There is interesting work for such a society about Penetanguishene or Orillia alone.

ANCIENT PEOPLES OF NORTH AMERICA.

Major J. W. Powell, of the U. S. Army, thus summarizes the result of his own investigation : The wealth and variety of materials of American history are but little appreciated. The people who inhabited the American continent before its discovery were not all of one race, but of many. In North America alone there were more than seventy-five distinct stocks, having radically distinct languages and mythologies, having independent and diverse institutions, and having diverse and multifarious arts. At the north we have the igloo dwellers that live by the shores of the frozen seas; farther to the south we have races occupying dwellings made of forest timber; other races wove their habitations of reeds; others built their towns of the clay of mother earth; and others erected their buildings of stones quarried from the cliffs; while still others hewed themselves habitations in the solid rock. Some dwelt in towering and almost inaccessible cliffs, while other towns were erected among the crags and cinders of extinct volcanoes. Some races were hunters, other races were fishermen, still other races were agriculturists. Some races worshipped the sun and moon and stars, and the gods of the cardinal points; other races made the mountains and the rivers the object of their principal worship; and all worshipped strange mythologic beasts.

All of the tribes were organized into bodies politic as bodies of kindred, but the method of organization was multifarious. Many tongues were spoken; harsh consonantal and guttural languages were found in the cold climate of the extreme north and south, vocalic and musical languages were found in the sunny lands of the middle zones. Everywhere the tribes had learned to use picture writing, and to record events with pictures of men and beasts and many conventional signs. They made tools and implements of stone and bone and shell and horn and wood. They made canoes and boats of bark and logs, they made rafts and basket boats of weeds, and they made kayaks of skins; and in such crafts they navigated the rivers, the lakes and the seas. The relics of all these mythologies, religions, insti-

tutions, languages, and arts must be recovered, if we are to preserve the ancient history of America; and the work must be done soon, or they will be lost.

THE CANADIAN SHORTHAND SOCIETY.

This society was established in August, 1882, in Toronto, at a convention presided over by Ald. John Taylor, an old writer of experience and ability. The papers presented at the first meeting were excellent in character. In the evening a public meeting was held in the City Hall, at which leading citizens were present. The Secretary of the Society at its organisation, and for two years afterward, was Mr. Thomas Bengough. Since then the secretary's office has been occupied by Frank Yeigh, private secretary to the Hon. A. S. Hardy; Geo. H. Smith, of the Canada Permanent Building society; Charles H. Brooks, now secretary to the Canadian Business University, and N. S. Dunlop. The President's chair has been occupied by the following gentlemen: Ald. Taylor, Toronto; Geo. B. Bradley, chief of the *Hansard* staff, Ottawa; Thomas Bengough, official reporter of the York County Courts, Toronto; E. E. Horton, official reporter High Court of Justice, Toronto; F. W. Wodell, then of the *Spectator*, Hamilton; Thomas Pinkey, of the Farmers' Loan Company, Toronto; and Thomas McGillicuddy, secretary to the Chief of the Bureau of Industries, Toronto. The conventions of the society have formed the chief event in the Canadian shorthand world each year. At every meeting there has been something of special interest to attract the fraternity. In 1883, by invitation from this society, the International Shorthand congress, comprising in its membership the leading stenographers of the United States and Canada, held their annual meeting in Toronto as the guests of this society, and that meeting of the international body was the most successful in its history. The Canadian society has done a great deal to foster and promote fraternal feeling between Canadian and American stenographers, and every year several of the leading shorthand writers from across the line make it a point to visit their Canadian brethren.

The society at first was organized with two classes of members, those of the professional class, who would not be admitted without a test of competency for verbatim reporting, called senior members, and those who used shorthand as amanuenses merely, who were called juniors. Owing, however, to the Canadian Shorthand Writers' Association—an organisation which had been planned for the purpose of keeping up prices among professional shorthand writers—being revived, and as that association dealt with the question of tests and tariff, the Canadian society was relieved from this troublesome duty. The constitution was therefore revised so as to do away with tests, and the membership now consists of two classes—those who use the art of shorthand professionally, called active members, and those who take an interest in the art, though they may not use it, who are called associates.

The leading feature of the recent convention, held in the Normal School, Toronto, on the 13th of last month, was a speed contest between operators of writing machines. Ten contestants entered the lists, and the affair assumed an international character, as there were seven operators from across the line. Three handsome medals were offered by the society in this unique tourney, besides a number of substantial cash prizes. All the parties concerned expressed themselves as thoroughly satisfied with the manner in which the speed contest was conducted. The Minister of Education presented the prizes to the winners.

The Canadian Shorthand Society was never in so prosperous a condition as it is to-day. Already plans are being formed to make the annual gathering next summer an attractive one to all interested in shorthand and typewriting. It is also proposed to have a full and free discussion of the leading systems of stenography during the regular monthly meetings of the society, and all matters pertaining to the winged art will be treated from a broad and truly liberal standpoint.