

spirit of research among ourselves? There is one present,* who in the midst of a laborious life, has often stolen hours from rest, looking with curious eye into the mysteries of nature, scrutinizing the beautiful texture of the insect's wing, or minutely examining the wild flower of the Prairie or the Bay. Another too there is, holding the same rank in the Hon. Company's service, whose best energies have, for many years, been given to the cause; who has pursued it unintermittingly, whether at Martin's Falls, at Norway House, or as I last saw him, full of the one topic, on the shores of Lake Superior. The name of Mr. Barnston is not unknown in Britain as that of a scientific collector, and his valuable contribution of insects from this country may be seen in the Entomological Department of the British Museum."

Dr. Schultz, in addressing the meeting, sought to indicate the field of scientific labour to be overtaken by the new Institute, and to stimulate its members to a hearty co-operation by further reference to scientific labours already successfully carried out in their midst:—"First," he remarked, "we shall be expected to give accurate scientific information on the Botany, Zoology, Geology, Ethnology, Meteorology, and Physical Geography of this country; to collect and exchange specimens with Societies of a like character, to publish the results of our researches, to give lists of specimens collected, and to correct the maps of this country. Here, we shall be expected to improve the condition of the country by encouraging the Arts and Manufactures, making experiments on the native plants, introducing new plants and seeds; by establishing a Library and Museum, and if assisted, an Observatory; and to answer those expectations, what have we done; what are we doing; and what can we do? In the '*Fauna Boreali Americani*' I note the following passage by Sir John Richardson: 'Science is indebted to the exertions of the Hudson Bay Company for all that is known of the Ornithology of the American fur countries,' and he goes on to specify the labours and contributions of many officers of that company in this country—Mr. Light, Mr. Islam, Mr. Graham, Mr. Martin, Mr. Hutchins (who made valuable contributions on the habits of the northern birds), Mr. David Douglas, and others. This is what has been done in Ornithology alone; and Zoology, Botany, Meteorology, and Geology are also largely indebted to those and other

* W. MacTavish, Governor of Assiniboia, whose valuable collections of Natural History received the thanks and acknowledgments of the Smithsonian Institution in 1861.