

mercial relations; as earnest ministers of the several Churches in the country; as learned and able judges; as prominent members of the Bar, and as eminent members of the medical profession; as enterprising agriculturists, and as ingenious and successful toilers in other avenues of labour—Canadian Celts are always to be found.

The promoters of the Society knew that Celtic Scholarship was cultivated by not a few Celts in the Dominion; and that, if their co-operation could be enlisted, the Society could not fail to be useful and successful. Due deference was paid to the fact, that we are now laying the foundation of a new, or Canadian, nationality in Canada; and that it, accordingly, behoves all the inhabitants of our country to be faithful to the claims which are thus made upon them. It was felt, however, that if the Celts of Canada were led to turn a more than casual attention to their Language and Literature, and to the traditions of their forefathers, their loyalty to Canada and their zeal in promoting the prosperity of the Dominion need not on that account become less warm and consistent. Indeed, it was surmised, that if intelligent attention could be drawn to the brave and honourable character and traditions of the Celts in the past, Canadian Celts would be led to cultivate a loftier ambition and to take a deeper interest in everything that conduces to the happiness and development of our country. The propriety was early recognized of founding the Society on a broad and liberal basis, so as to attract to it, and to have as earnest and contented members of it, as many representatives as possible of the several divisions of the Celtic family. There are, therefore, to be found in the membership of the Society, Celts of different creeds and early associations. No religious questions are discussed, and every effort is made to preserve in every particular the strictly Catholic character of the Society.

The Society was organized on the 6th December, 1883, and the first regular meeting was held on the 25th January, 1884. The membership of the Society, consisting as it does of Honorary, Life, Corresponding, and Ordinary members, already approaches the number of two hundred and fifty. In the membership are to be found prominent Canadian statesmen; well-known Celtic scholars; Celtic gentlemen of high standing in the country; eminent Celtic scholars, and poets, and professors, in Great Britain and Ireland, on the Continent of Europe, in the United States, and elsewhere. The earliest friends of the Society may be excused for having a feeling of pardonable pride, that it has been possible, in so short a time, to