

that we give a portion of it: "Whatever distinctions," said he, "may be bestowed on us at a distance, it is upon the respect, esteem, and confidence shewn us at home, that our happiness and satisfaction must chiefly depend. I can assure you with sincerity that the honor conferred upon me when you elected me the first President of the Institute, was one highly prized, although the circumstances of a distant domicile and the intent pursuit of the investigations with which I am charged, rendered it extremely difficult for me to be of much use in your proceedings. . . . It is a fortunate circumstance for me that my name should be connected with an act of grace on the part of Her Majesty, which serves to confirm your feeling in regard to the fact that as Canadians we enjoy a full share in the honors and privileges of British subjects. And I am proud to think that it was perhaps more because I was a Canadian, in whom the inhabitants of the Province had reposed some trust, that the honor which has been conferred upon me by Her Majesty was so easily obtained. That I am proud of the honors which have been bestowed upon me by the Emperor of France, in respect to my geological labors, and also by my brother geologists in England, there can be no doubt. But I have striven for these honors because I have considered they would tend to promote the confidence which the inhabitants of the Province have reposed in me, in my endeavors to develop the truth in regard to the mineral resources of the Province; and in this work none could have been more interested in my success than the members of this Institute." *

In August, 1857, the American Association for the Advancement of Science held its annual meeting in Montreal, and for several months previous Sir William was hard at work getting his museum in readiness to receive his brother geologists. Owing largely to his untiring exertions, the meeting was a most successful one. He himself read two interesting papers, one on the "Huronian and Laurentian Series of Canada," and another on the "Sub-division of the Laurentian Rocks of Canada." After the business of the Association was concluded, accompanied by Professor Ramsay, who had come over to represent the Geological Society of London, and Prof. Hall, he made a Geological tour through New York State. Returning from this

* Can. Journal, New Series, Vol. 1, p. 404.