

The additions made to the Library this year, consist of three descriptions: the splendid donation of the Earl of Durham, the books procured for illustrating the history of the country, and the continuation of works in course of publication.

The Society is already well informed concerning the nature and extent of the munificent donation of books made by His Excellency the Governor-General, who also consented to become its Patron. A circumstance that ought never to be forgotten by us, is, that this expensive and valuable present was procured for us in anticipation of our wants. The penetration of the Earl of Durham led him to perceive, before leaving his native shores, that a Society such as ours, must, in a distant Colony, be in want of support; the slender information he had concerning us, suggested to him the kind of assistance we wanted; and the generosity of his disposition directed him unsolicited to afford it. This benefaction, unique in its kind, and invaluable as to its importance, is doubly enhanced by the disinterested manner in which it was designed and bestowed.

This magnificent present consists of ninety-four volumes of Greek and Roman Classics, all of them extremely valuable, and many of them exceedingly scarce. They are, for the most part, of the most correct editions, several of them enriched with learned commentaries, and all of them respectable in respect of paper, type and binding. Several of them are the finest specimens of typography that the country has seen. A series of Reports on the editions to which they belong, has been begun to be read at the Monthly General Meetings, and will, it is expected, be continued.

Whether we consider the opportunities of learned research which are thus afforded us, the acquisitions which we are thus taught to prize, or the studies which we are thus urged to prosecute, we are, on every one of these accounts, bound to appreciate this donation at an no ordinary rate.

The next principal addition to the library has a reference immediately to the great object for which our association was originally formed. The enlightened nobleman already mentioned as its Founder, observed, on the first occasion on which he met the members of it as a body, that it was better to direct its attention immediately to the early history of Canada, wisely judging, that, by having a definite purpose in view, we were most likely to prosecute