

In 1894, elected him its President ; and, at its meeting of that year, in Ottawa, he was the honored guest of Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Aberdeen. On New Year's Day, 1897, our host received a telegram that announced that Her Majesty the Queen had been pleased to confer upon him the honor of knighthood, in recognition of his literary services. This, we might remark, was one of the few knighthoods ever bestowed by Her late Majesty for such services in Canada.

These ailes that we tread to-day have been trodden by some of the world's illustrious men and women, who have paid their tribute of respect to the host of Spencer Grange ; we recall such names as Parkman, George Augustus Sala, Wm. Kirby, Canon Kingsley, Dean Stanley, Sir Gilbert Parker, Goldwin Smith, Charles Hallock ; most of the Governor-Generals of Canada, including the Marquis of Lorne, Princess Louise, Lord Dufferin and Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Minto, now with us.

To-day, we, his old and loving friends of Quebec, have the happiness of presenting him, on this joyful occasion, with this token of our love and admiration "

The portrait was then unveiled. It stood on an easel, arranged by the artist in the best possible light, and over the top of the heavy gilt frame hung a spray of maple leaves, a most appropriate decoration. The painting, a life-size,—represents Sir James sitting in his library chair, surrounded by his books. On the table beside him lies "A page bearing the inscription "Maple Leaves," "Picturesque Quebec," and "Legends of the St. Lawrence." The expression of the face is very life-like."

After the unveiling Sir James replied as follows :

"Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen :

Words fail to express what I feel on this occasion.

For this artistic tribute of esteem and good will, tendered by so many old and some new friends, and acclaimed by others guided by their interest in Canadian letters, accept my hearty, my sincere, my enduring thanks.

Two sentiments appear to mingle in this manifestation far beyond my humble merits :

Whilst it gratefully reminds me that, after a tolerably long lapse of years, I seem still to retain a place in the hearts of old friends,—and passing sweet is a souvenir from old friends ! it also indicates the sympathy of some well wishers, here present, whom I just heard exclaiming : " We are with you, Sir James, " in the love you have infused in us towards our native or our adopted country ; you have happily brought back to us, in a multiplicity of forms, the romantic story of its warlike past ; the exceeding richness of its present resources ; the charm of its healthy, rustic homes ; the beauty of its scenery, like a chaplet of flowers, encircling the historic old town."