

We do not, of course, believe that the object of the meeting is to advance the study of science, or promote scientific research: that could be done much more conveniently at home. The object is not to obtain large and appreciative audiences, for we fear that Canada offers no such field as England. The object of the meeting is, doubtless, to see the great resources of this continent, to find the attracting centre of the moving tides of migration, to rectify the popular and prevalent ideas about endless ice and snow, continual frosts prowling bears and scalping savages. We most sincerely hope that, although we may be disappointed in our expectations of grand discoveries, and wonders of eloquence, we may be able to disabuse our visitors' minds of some prevailing ideas, that they will see our fields clad in a garb of green, our citizens happy and prosperous, and our country the best country in the world.

THE Free Library of Toronto is being vigorously pushed forward, and ere long the citizens of the enterprising city will be able to enjoy the advantages of a large and, we hope, carefully selected stock of books. But as this is to be a popular library, the large majority of the works will be works of travel and of fiction. We hope that this may be the means of starting another project, equally as important, viz., the foundation of a *reference* library, consisting of full lists of the important works, on medicine, law, art and science; one to which specialists in these different branches of study might resort for further information. At present the only library of any importance in Canada is the Government Library at Ottawa, which is somewhat inaccessible to the majority of those desiring to consult such works. The library that we desire to see established should be placed where most needed, at Toronto or Montreal, or in connection with some important college: it should contain all the works—old and new—of the leading writers and authorities in the different subjects. The library at Ottawa might be taken as a beginning, but only as such. The rising men of the day, in law, medicine and science, as soon as they leave their colleges, must at once make