

who consults the volumes of Transactions already published will, we think, agree with us. In the region of science the Royal Society of Canada has achieved a measure of success. The results of the researches of such men as the Dawsons, Selwyns, Sterry-Hunts, Murrays, Matthews, Whiteaves, and others in the geology, mineralogy and palæontology of Canada, have been discussed and made public. Sir Daniel Wilson's investigations also, on the Huron-Iroquois, on the Pre-Aryan American man, and other anthropological subjects (all within the domain of science) could hardly have found a fitter medium for dissemination. The same may be said, in some degree, for the quasi-scientific contributions of Mr. John Reade. But as for Section I, that devoted to "French literature, history, and allied subjects," the tables of contents make one smile. The "allied subjects" embrace fugitive recollections of a visit to the Colonial Exposition, some scenes from an unpublished comedy, a poem in five hundred and odd lines on "*La Cloche*," and so forth. We say this without any disparagement of the native literature of French Canada, of which, on the contrary, we heartily recognize the charms. The Canadian Society suffers in a comparison with its American counterpart for the Advancement of Science. It is a close corporation, it is not migratory, it offers no fund for the prosecution of individual research. Even its plaudits can have little effect, since their echoes do not pass beyond its portals.* Literature is a plant which to thrive must be self-sown. Forced culture will produce only a sickly hybrid. Canada is ambitious of having a native literature; let her wait, and if she has the gift it will come. She will one day awake and find herself famous in the world of letters. It is not to be forgotten that the country is paying for the Royal Society \$5,000 a year, a sum for which a good deal in the way of useful research and encouragement might be done.

—Mr. Blaine's grand Pan-American Congress has failed. Commercially it has come absolutely to nothing, while the