

when he appeared the citizens thronged out in congregations to see the latest wonders of science. At the time of the *Trent* affair, Dr. May was active in the formation of the Civil Service company, and was appointed surgeon; subsequently he was gazetted as assistant surgeon of the Queen's Own battalion. He was present with the Queen's Own at Ridgeway, and his bravery on that occasion was the subject of much approbation, especially his courage, activity, and self-exposure in caring for the wounded during and after the battle. At the close of a demonstration held in the drill-shed in Toronto, upon the return of the troops from the front, Lieut.-Colonel Durie, deputy A. A. G., presented Dr. May to General Napier, who thanked him for his services and devotion to the wounded, as well as for the gallantry exhibited by him upon the battlefield. In 1876 he was appointed by Hon. Mr. Crooks to take charge of the exhibit at the Philadelphia International Exhibition, and subsequently, on the arrival of Hon. Mr. Scott, then secretary of state, he assisted generally in the general exhibit of the Dominion. It was he who constructed designs for the arch, decorations, etc., and he also wrote the catalogue of educational appliances. Dr. May received a diploma for his specimens of natural history on that occasion. He took part in all the educational meetings at the centennial, and was subsequently appointed on the committee of the permanent exhibition, and one of the lecturers for the bureau of education. The following paragraph appeared in a leading Philadelphia newspaper at the time: "The exhibit is at present under the superintendence of Dr. S. P. May, of the Education department of Toronto. The doctor is a gentleman of large resources, full of suggestions, and his pet subject is education of the young. With his good-nature and easy manners, he is always ready to impart to all who are interested in the subject his ample knowledge, which always proves a mine of wealth to the listener. He is equally capable of expounding the Ontario school system, which he represents, or to give a vivid running commentary on the articles exhibited or represented, whether it be kindergarten, natural history, geography, or the various branches of physics. He not only explains, but interests and instructs, and the throng that daily gathers around him during his short, descriptive lectures, is a proof of his popularity." On Dr. May's return, he wrote a report for the commissioner of agriculture, of 239

pages. In 1877 he gave a public address on the exhibition at the annual meeting of the Ontario Agricultural Society, which was reproduced in a pamphlet, five thousand of which were printed for general circulation. Dr. May was appointed secretary for the Dominion at the Exposition Universal of 1878; and was awarded the gold medal as *collaborateur* of the food exhibit which won the grand prize. This collection was made by Dr. May, and chiefly prepared by himself, consisting of food products, including fish, game, etc., which were fitted up to represent a market. He was also awarded a diploma for a new method of arranging natural history specimens in museums. He received the decoration of the Legion of Honour for his eminent services to the nation; also the decoration of palm leaves, or officer of Academy, Paris. He received a medal from the French government in 1881; one thousand dollars worth of silver from the Ontario exhibitors; and an address, gold watch, and jewellery, for Mrs. May, from visitors. He was appointed superintendent of the Mechanics' institutes and Art schools in 1880, and wrote a special report afterwards. In 1883 he wrote a catalogue for the museum of the Guelph Agricultural college; and in 1884 prepared a descriptive catalogue for the Educational museum. Dr. May has lectured at Mechanics' institutes on popular scientific subjects, and he has always been listened to with the profoundest attention. He has the happy gift of popularising and making full of interest everything that he touches. The institutes have increased 100 per cent., and evening classes have been established in fifty or sixty places where he has lectured. What art education has achieved under Dr. May will be understood from the fact that when he was put in charge of this department of our educational service there were only two public Art schools, while there are now five, with over seventy branch schools. He has been appointed by the Ontario government as their representative at the Colonial Exhibition. The Educational Court, under his direction, will embrace the largest collection of educational appliances and pupils' work ever exhibited by any one country. Education, art, and science, in Ontario, owe a deep debt to the wide gifts, the enthusiasm, and the wonderful industry of this accomplished man. It is only once or so in a generation that there arises a man like him, endowed for the pursuit and mastery of so many subjects; and Pope has said,—